

PRIEST

SIRHC- 2004.01.26

SYNOPSIS:

- HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO THE PRIEST AND WITCH HUNTER BETHEAL GAVARRE TRIED THE HERETIC VASCAR OF GUILLON IN A SECRET COURT. WHAT HE REALIZED TOO LATE WAS THAT WHEN VASCAR CLAIMED TO BE THE FALLEN ARCHANGEL TEMOZARELA, BENT ON CORRUPTING THE RACE OF MAN, IT WAS NEITHER LIE NOR MADMAN'S RANT. IN ORDER TO CONTAIN TEMOZARELA, BETHEAL DREW FROM THE LORE OF ANCIENT CULTS TO CREATE THE DOMAS PORADA, THE MATRIX OF SILENCE. THE VATICAN INVESTIGATORS SENT TO INVESTIGATE BETHEAL FOUND NO SIGN OF HIM OR HIS CREATION-THE FALLEN PRIEST AND FALLEN ANGEL DISAPPEARED FROM HISTORY. UNTIL NOW, IN A FORGOTTEN ABBEY IN THE WASTELANDS OF THE AMERICA'S OLD WEST, THE DOMAS PORDADA HAS BEEN FOUND, AND A BAND OF RESEARCHERS TRY TIRELESSLY TO OPEN IT NOT KNOWING THE EVIL IT CONTAINS.

NOTES:

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HERE'S VOL 06. TOO SAVE MYSELF SOME TIME I DIDN'T RENAME THE PAGE FILES. I JUST LEFT THEM AS IS, AS I SCANNED THEM. ERRR...THAT'S IT I GUESS. I DID NOT QC THE SCANS, SO IF NE ONE FINDS NE THING WRONG LET ME KNOW OR SOMETHING.

ENJOY!!!

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A  TOKYOPop MANGA

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INTRODUCTION

BY
MIKE CAREY

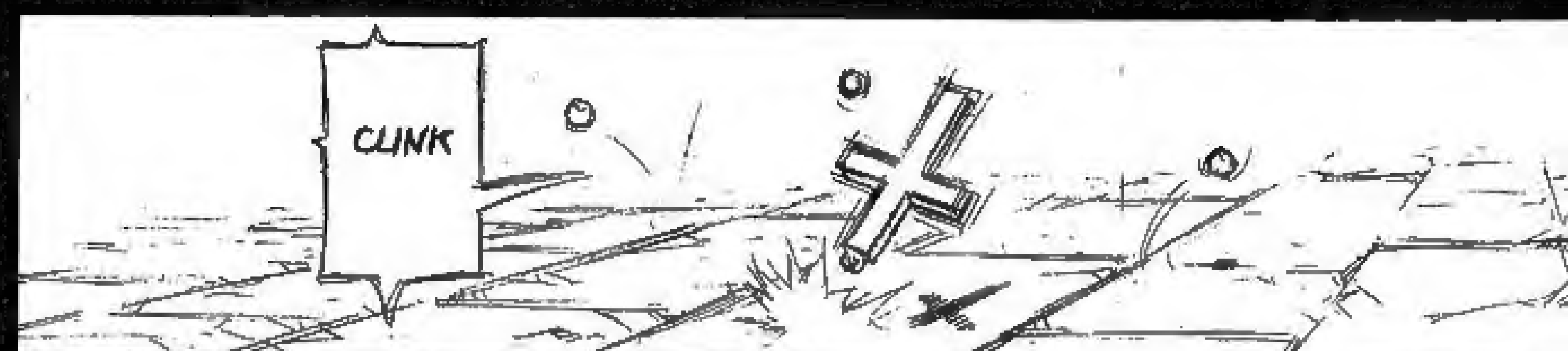


You remember when *Priest* was just a gothic horror spaghetti Western with some spectacularly cinematic action sequences and a perversely engaging killer hero? It was lots of fun back then, wasn't it? But it went beyond being "lots of fun" a good while back now, and it's currently evolving into one of the most enthralling and unpredictable stories in the entire medium.

"Evolving" seems like a good word to use, because the way Min-Woo Hyung's storyline is developing has the qualities that you tend to meet at the extreme edges of the Darwinian skirmish: like a giraffe or a duck-billed platypus, it leaves you gaping at first look and then, when you look again (as you have to), it seems inexplicable but wonderfully right.

From a start point that was already a melange of different genres, the story has expanded to cover three historical periods (the separate casts converging in some totally unexpected ways) and to include—alongside the visceral action that we've come to take for granted—a compelling mystery, a poignant romance and a meditation on faith and predestination. And it never telegraphs a single punch.

There's a moment in the fifth volume when the inquisitor, Bethael Gavarre, is winding his rosary around his fingers, contemplating the challenge posed to his faith and his methods by the heretic, De Guillon—and then the rosary, wound too tightly, snaps, spilling the beads and the cross onto the floor. Gavarre stares down at them, vaguely puzzled, as though he's not quite sure how this happened. This is a trivial event in one way, but symbolically it's one of the central moments of the book, carrying the message that any faith that is adhered to too rigidly will sooner or later snap. We've now seen the moment of fracture in the case of De Guillon, whose wife and children are burned alive, and we're about to see it in the case of Ivan Isaacs seven centuries later in the American West. It remains to be seen how things are going to work out for the contemporary protagonist, Father Simon Talbot.



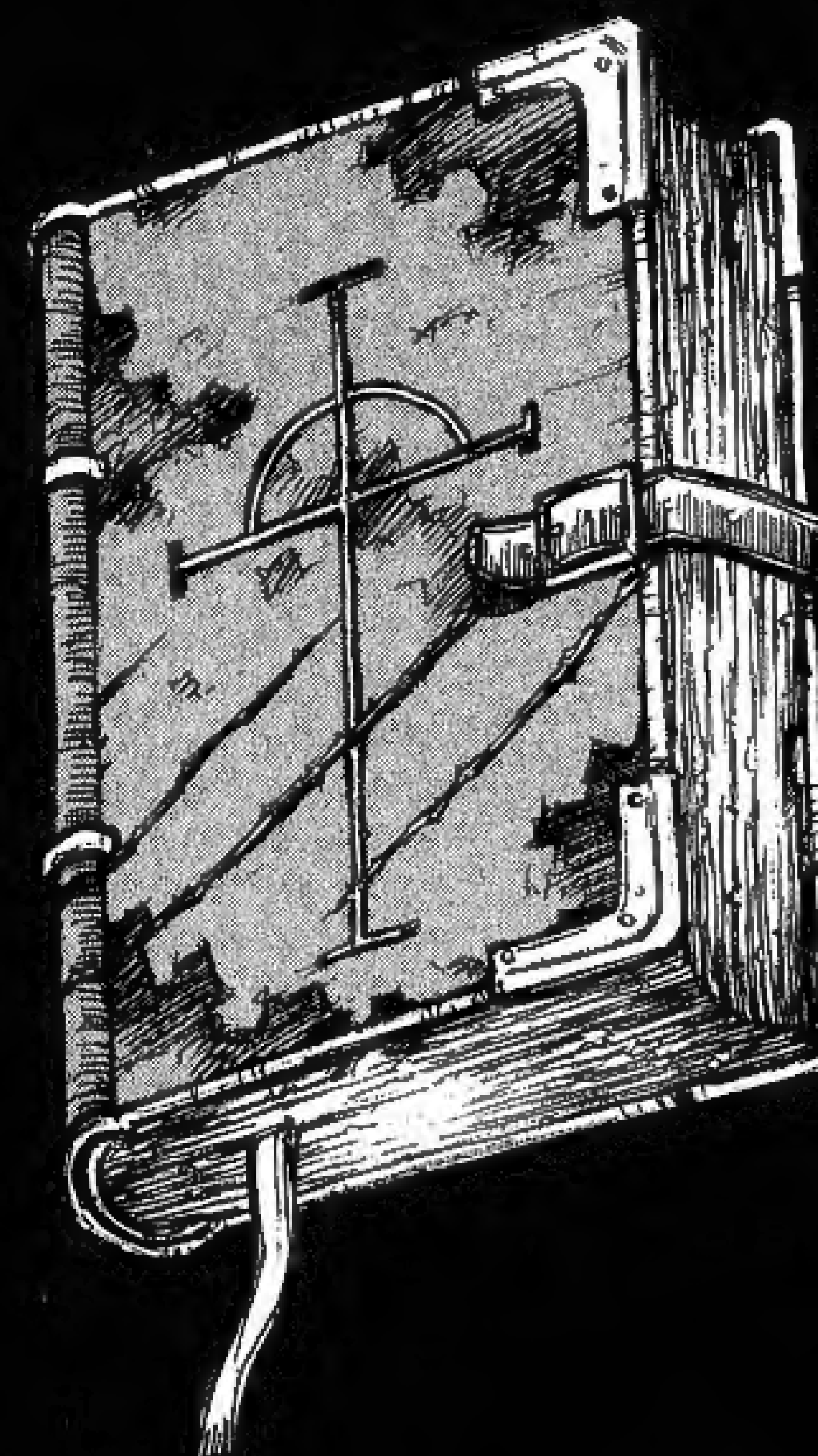


And as I write this I'm thinking back to a moment in book two where Ivan deals with a pack of marauding zombies by throwing a stick of dynamite into their midst and then detonating it with a bullet from his revolver. Not many books have succeeded in fusing such unabashed and exhilarating action with such spiky intellectual matters. Let's face it, not many books have even tried.

So here we are, in the middle of at least three stories, with the great stone column of the domas poradas rising out of all of them "like a blasphemous finger, pointing at heaven" (as Mervyn Peake would say). And the background details are just beginning to be painted in, in a fourth story that deals with jealous angels and ancient cataclysms. Oh, and we've got a devil imprisoned in stone with the mortal man he tormented and destroyed along for company. A railroad line designed to draw a blasphemous sigil across the American deserts. An incestuous love that is entirely sympathetic and hopelessly doomed. The Vatican's secret strike force. A single man taking on the might of the inquisition so ruthlessly that you honestly don't know which evil is worse. Every chapter adds a new layer of queasy delight.

The very best comic books tend to give me exactly this combination of feelings: the feeling that I really can't make any predictions about how it's all going to come out, and the determination, wherever it goes, to be along right to the end of the ride. TOKYOPOP is doing a service to us all by making this incredible series available in English. But as I wait for the next volume I feel as if my own rosary beads are going to get wound up tighter, and tighter, and tighter...

Mike Carey
January 2003



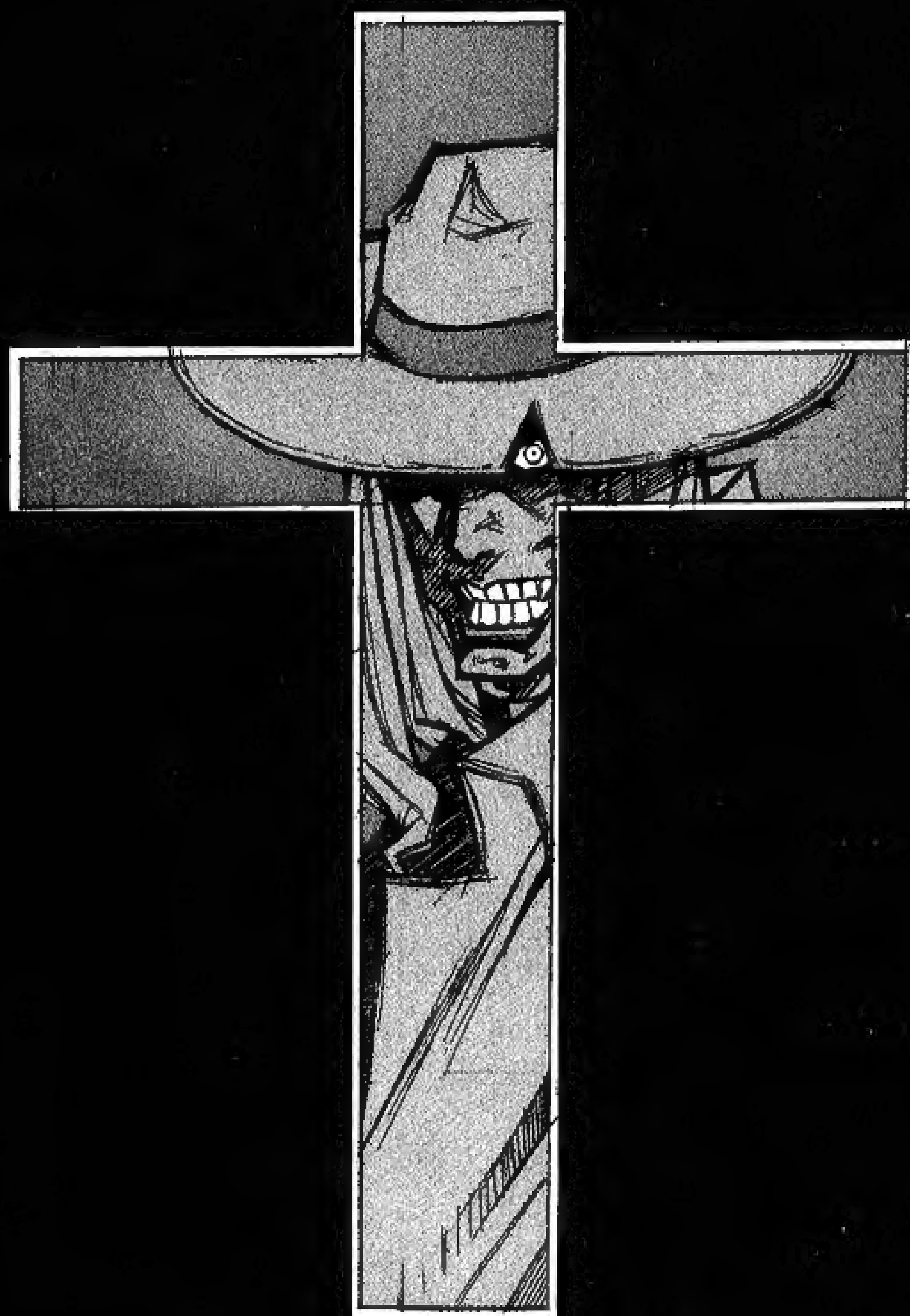
THE STORY SO FAR...

In the beginning, God created man in his image and looked upon them and said, "THEY ARE GOOD." Unlike the angels who served him, mankind was not allowed to look upon God in life, and so was born the concept of Faith. While all men were sacred to God, not all men acknowledged his existence or honored his name, for they were granted a gift unique among all God's creations—Free Will. One of God's angels, his messenger Temozarela, became enraged that God would show more love for these flawed mortal beings than he did for his original creations, the seraphim. Having gathered 12 followers, Temozarela abandoned his post in heaven in order to turn mankind against God.

Many years later, a particularly righteous group of God's followers took it upon themselves to travel hundreds of miles to recapture the land of Jesus' birth. During these Crusades, the Knight Templar Vascar de Guillon came upon the ruins of an ancient cult that had built monuments to Temozarela and his minions. The spirit of Temozarela himself came to Sir Vascar and occupied the knight's body. For the next hundred years, Temozarela and his followers, in their human hosts, wandered the Holy Land, slaughtering all they encountered.

Eventually the unholy knights returned to Europe where Temozarela was put on trial for heresy. The heretic prosecutor Betheal Gavarre sentenced Sir Vascar/Temozarela to torture and execution. From his dungeon prison, Temozarela manipulated the mind of Betheal's ward, a young boy named Matthew, causing him to commit atrocities so horrific that Betheal cursed the name of God.

In the remote Stonetale Abbey, located somewhere in the frontier of the American West, Ivan Isaacs, a young religious scholar, reads about this forgotten history in his quest to unlock the secrets of the Domas Porada. We now return to his research...

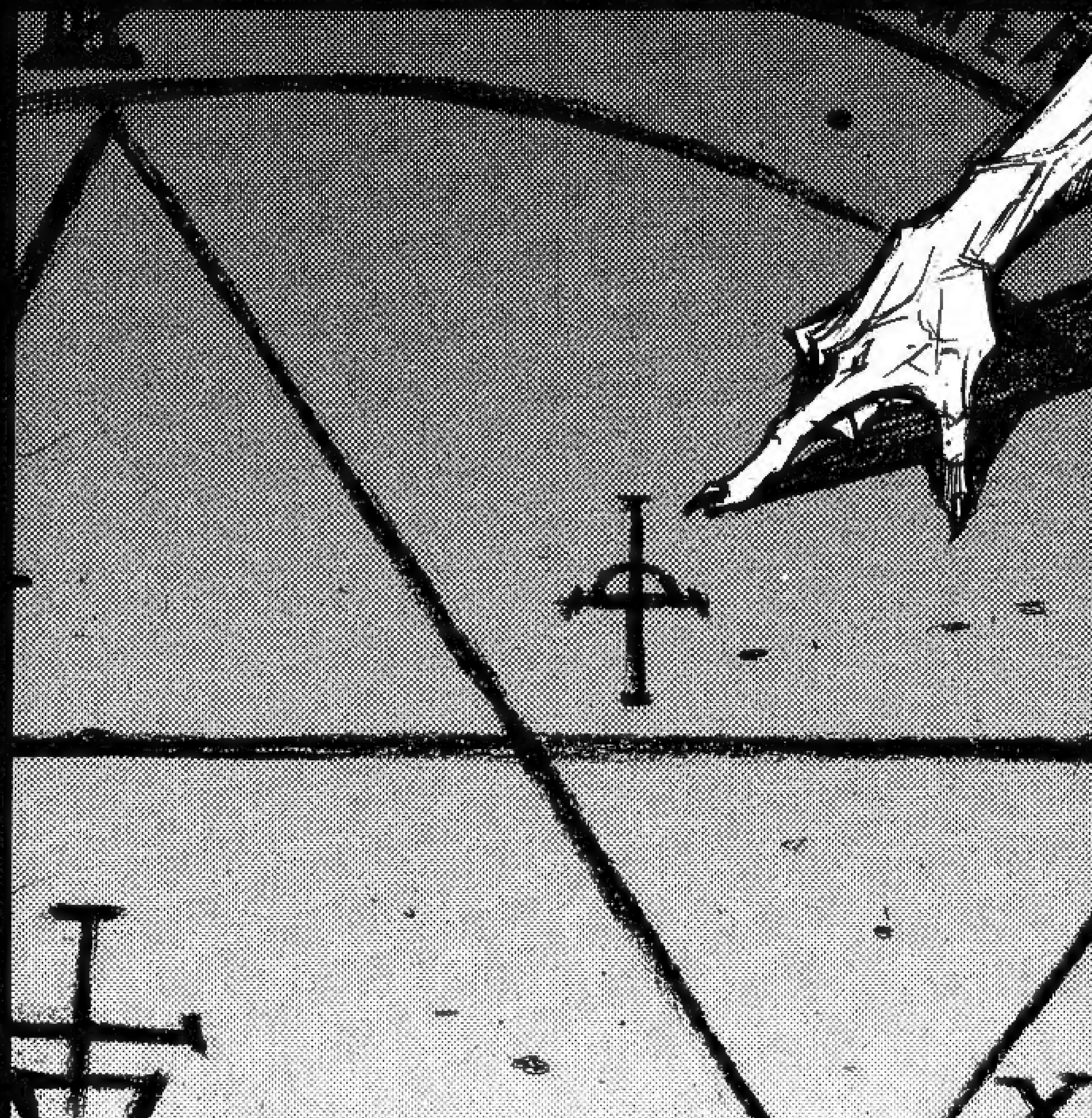


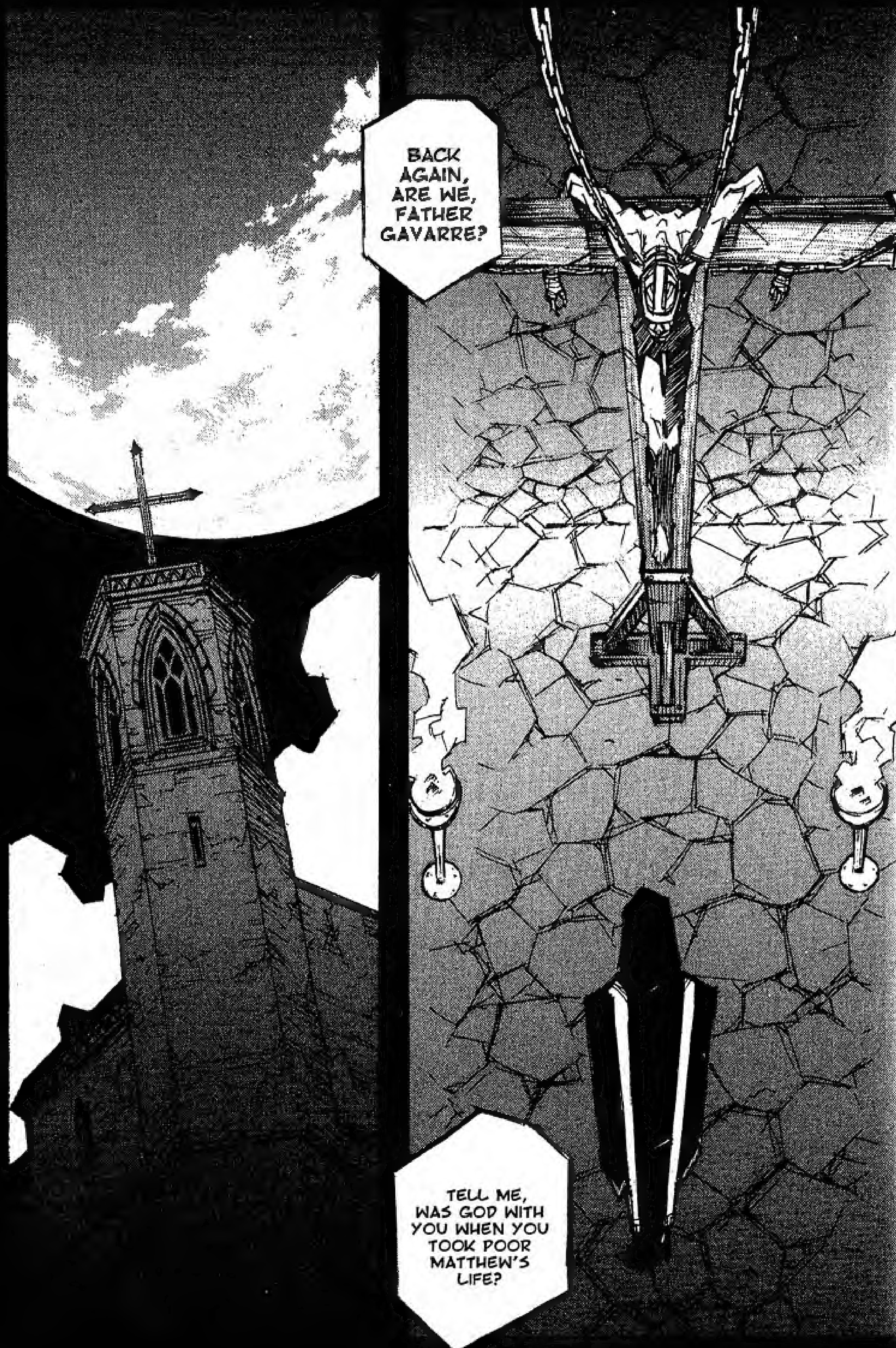
PRiEST

프리스트

6

SYMPHONY OF BLOOD





BACK AGAIN,
ARE WE,
FATHER
GAVARRE?

TELL ME,
WAS GOD WITH
YOU WHEN YOU
TOOK POOR
MATTHEW'S
LIFE?

WHO ARE
YOU?

WHO
ARE YOU
REALLY?



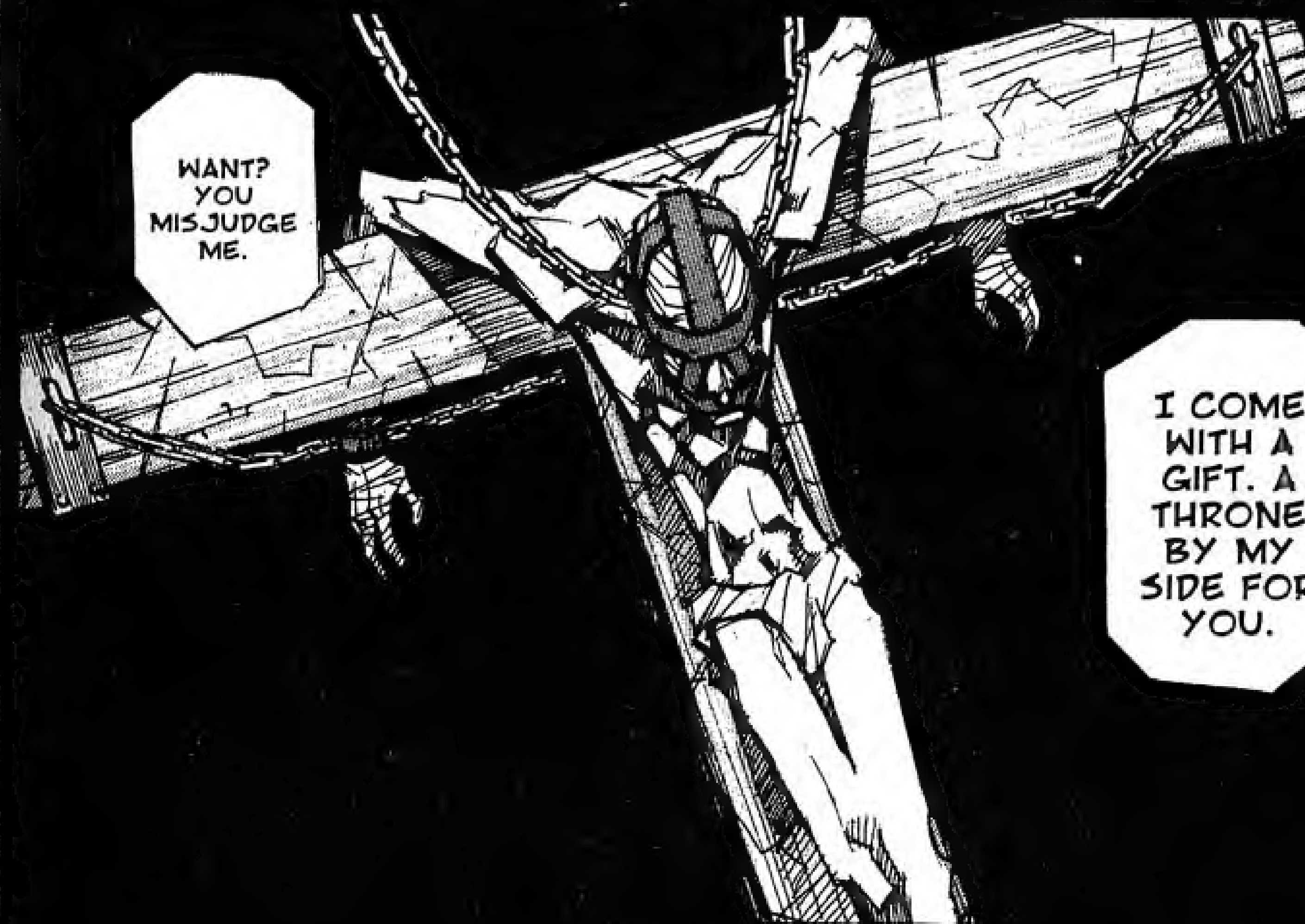
I HAVE
ALREADY
TOLD
YOU.

I
AM HE
WHO WAS
ONCE GOD'S
MESSENGER.

WHAT
DO YOU
WANT
FROM
ME?

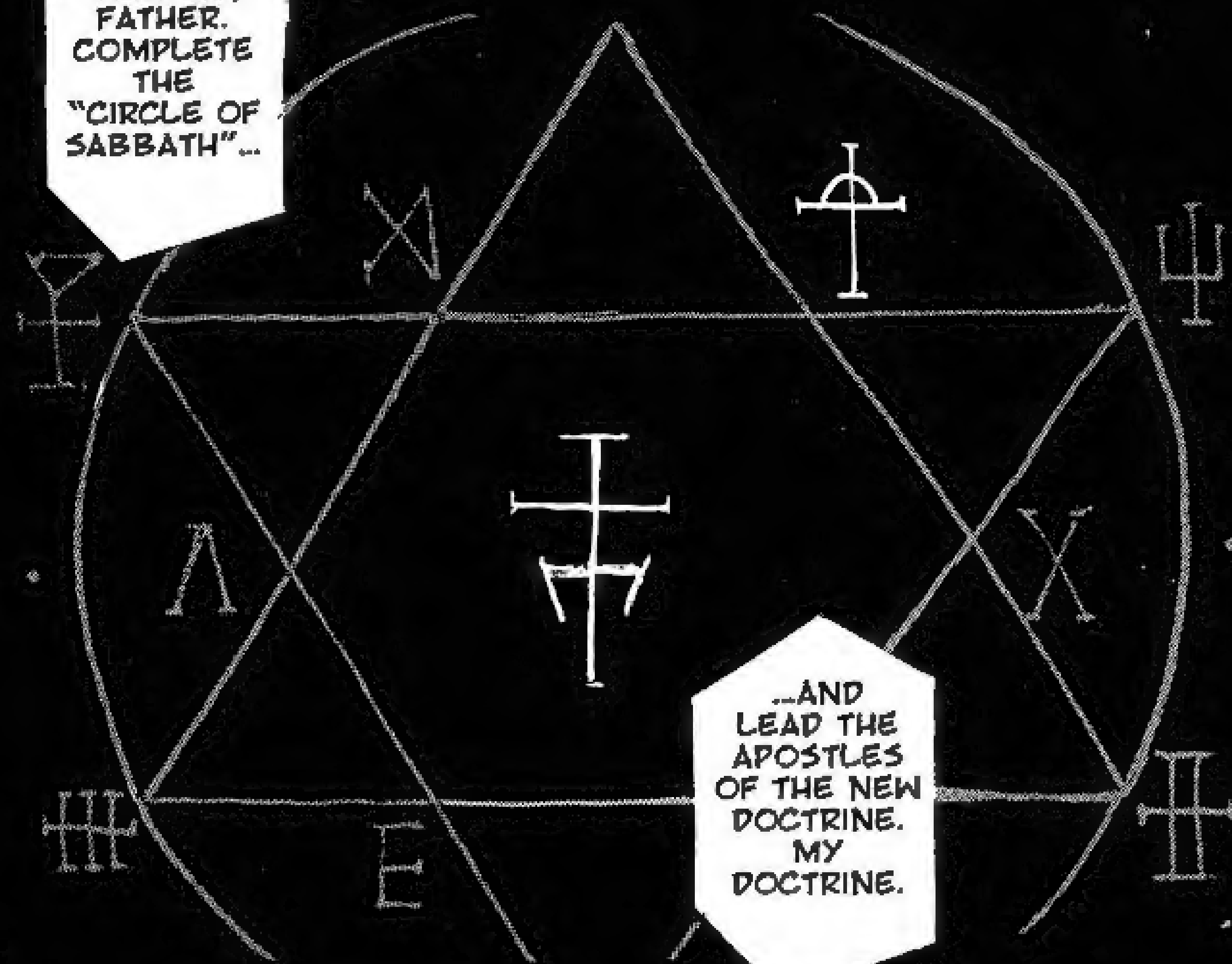


WANT?
YOU
MISJUDGE
ME.



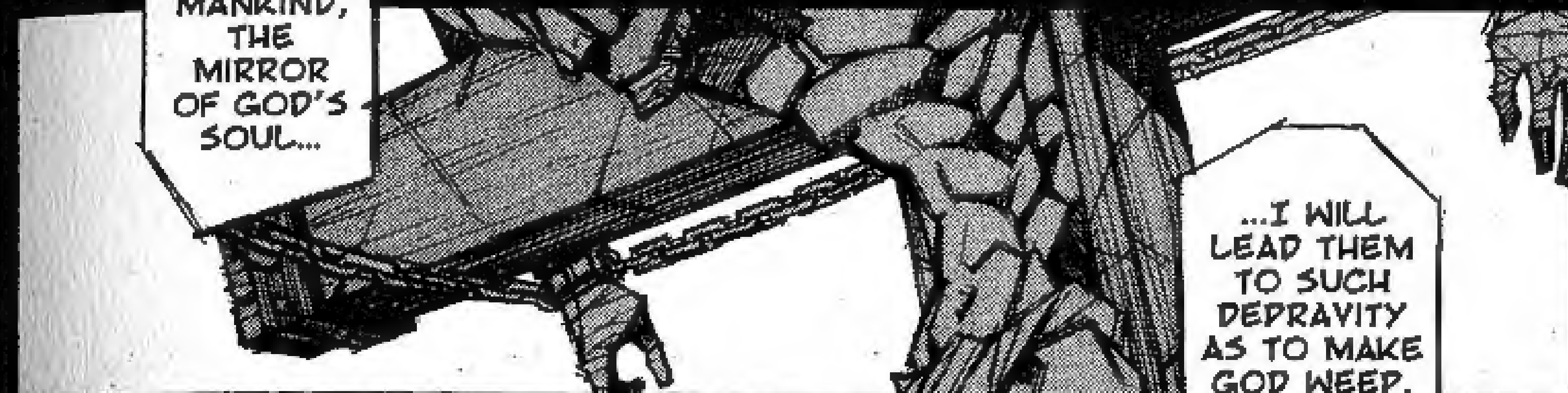
I COME
WITH A
GIFT. A
THRONE
BY MY
SIDE FOR
YOU.

JOIN ME,
FATHER.
COMPLETE
THE
"CIRCLE OF
SABBATH"...



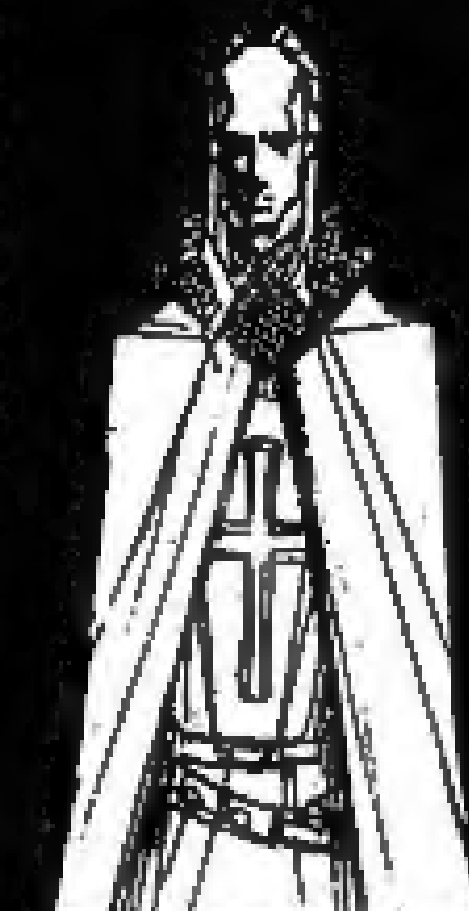
...AND
LEAD THE
APOSTLES
OF THE NEW
DOCTRINE.
MY
DOCTRINE.

MANKIND,
THE
MIRROR
OF GOD'S
SOUL...



...I WILL
LEAD THEM
TO SUCH
DEPRAVITY
AS TO MAKE
GOD WEEP.

VIOLATED
BY HIS OWN
CREATIONS
FOR
ETERNITY,
UNABLE TO
STOP THEM...



THE
WORLD IS
OURS TO
DO WITH
AS WE
PLEASE...

...TO
RESHAPE
TO OUR
OWN
DESIGNS
!!



...FOR
TO
DO
SO...

...WOULD
BE TO
ADMIT
HIS OWN
IMPERFEC-
TION.

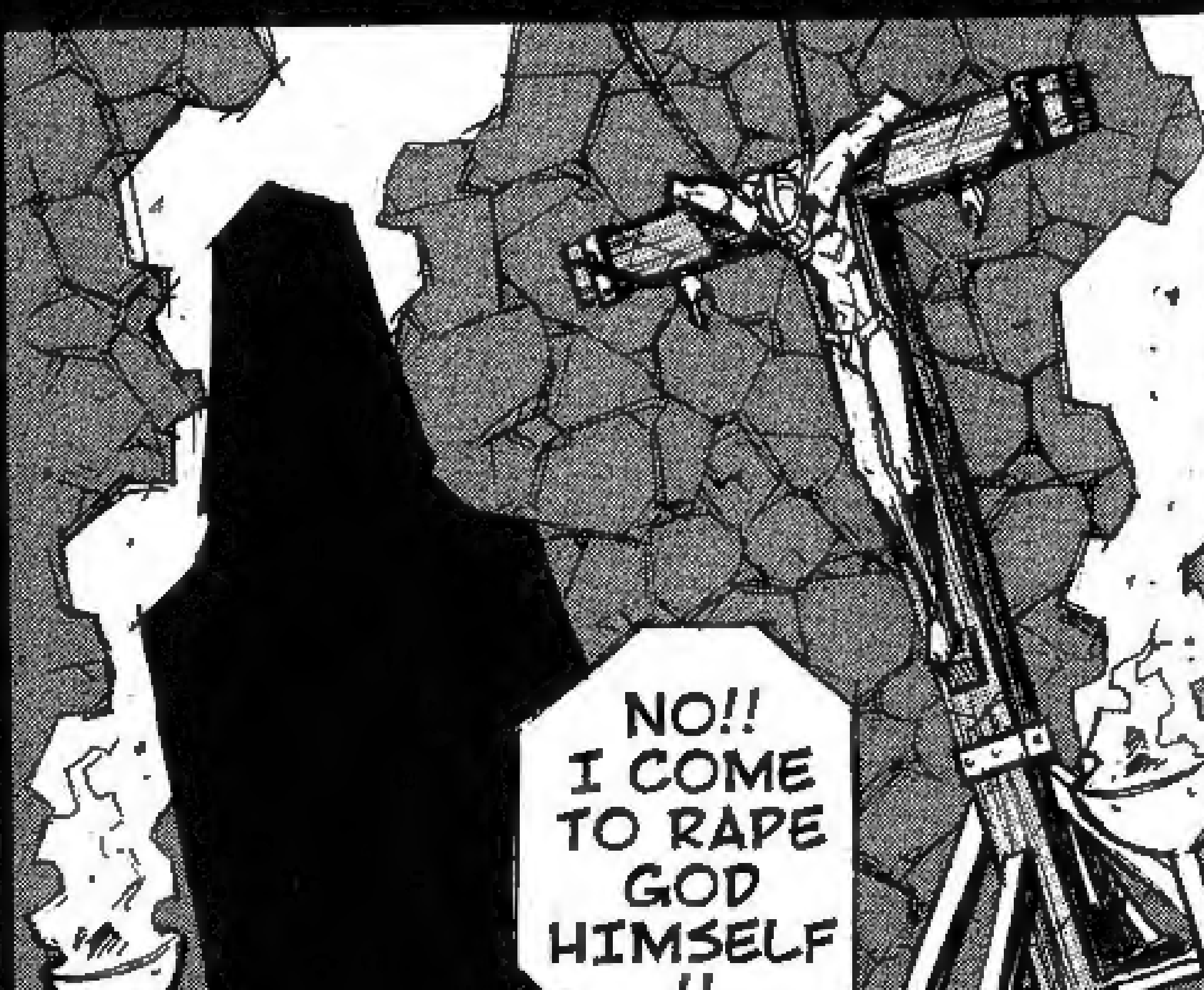


IS
THAT
ALL?

YOU
ABANDON
HEAVEN
TO RAPE
GOD'S
CREATION
?



NO!!
I COME
TO RAPE
GOD
HIMSELF
!!



BUT
YOU,
BETHEAL
!



YOU
SHALL
RULE
WITH ME,
HERE ON
EARTH!



AS YOUR CASTRATED
GOD HIDES IN HIS KINGDOM,
HE WILL HEAR THE CRIES OF
HIS CREATIONS BELOW.



HOW IT WILL PAIN HIM TO KNOW THAT
THE CRIES HE HEARS ARE THOSE OF JOY, THE
EXALTATIONS OF HIS CREATIONS FREED FROM
HIS DOCTRINE OF PAIN, HATE AND FEAR.



BECOME THE
12TH AND
GREATEST
APOSTLE IN
MY CIRCLE
OF SABBATH.

TOGETHER WE
SHALL HELP
HUMANITY
UNFETTER ITS
CARNAL DESIRES
AND EMBRACE
A NEW GOD.

WE ARE
KINDRED SPIRITS,
YOU AND I.

WHY...



WHY
HAVE
YOU
CHOSEN
ME?

BECAUSE
IN YOU
I SEE
MYSELF.



BECAUSE
ONLY HE
WHOSE HAS
KNOWN THE
GREATEST
HEIGHTS OF
FAITH...

...CAN
UNDERSTAND
WHAT IT
MEANS TO
LOSE THAT
FAITH.

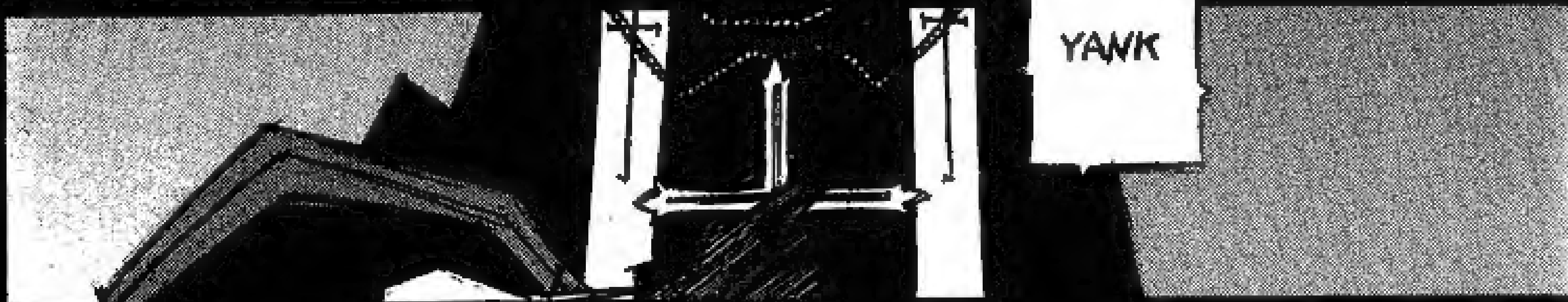
HA...

HA
HA...

HA
HA HA
HA!!

HO
HO
HO!

HOA
HA
HA
HA
HA!!



YANK



SNAP

IT'S
JUST AS
YOU
SAID,
FALLEN
ONE.



YOUR
HATRED
...

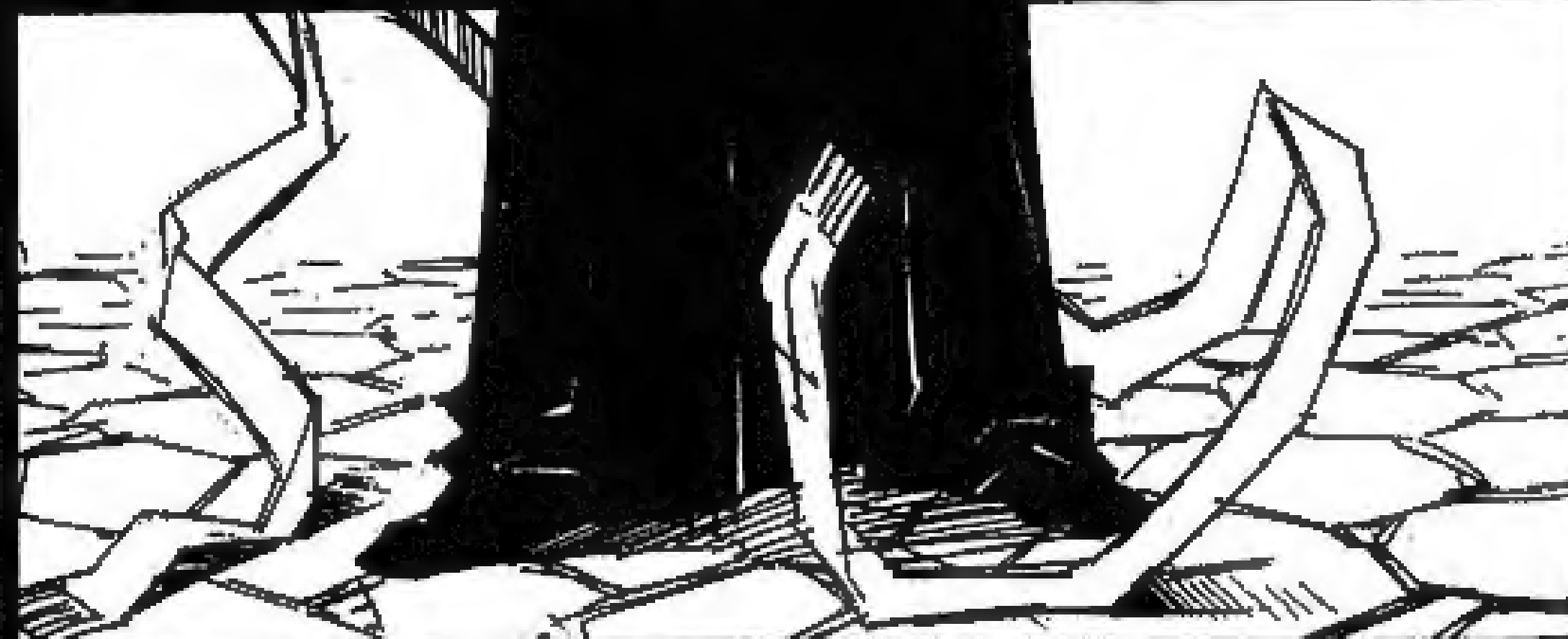
...WILL
MAKE
YOU EVEN
STRONGER!



YES, I
SEE NOW
THAT YOUR
DOGMA OF
HATE...

...WILL
GIVE ME
POWER
BEYOND
PIOUS
MAN.

I WILL
WASTE NO
MORE
PRAYERS
ON MY
FORMER
LORD.



I BEAR
NO MORE
LOVE FOR
GOD.

I BEAR
NOTHING
BUT HATE
FOR THE
ONE WHO,
DESPITE
MY
SERVICE
TO HIM...

...WOULD
TAKE
AWAY
MY ONE
BLESSING
IN LIFE.



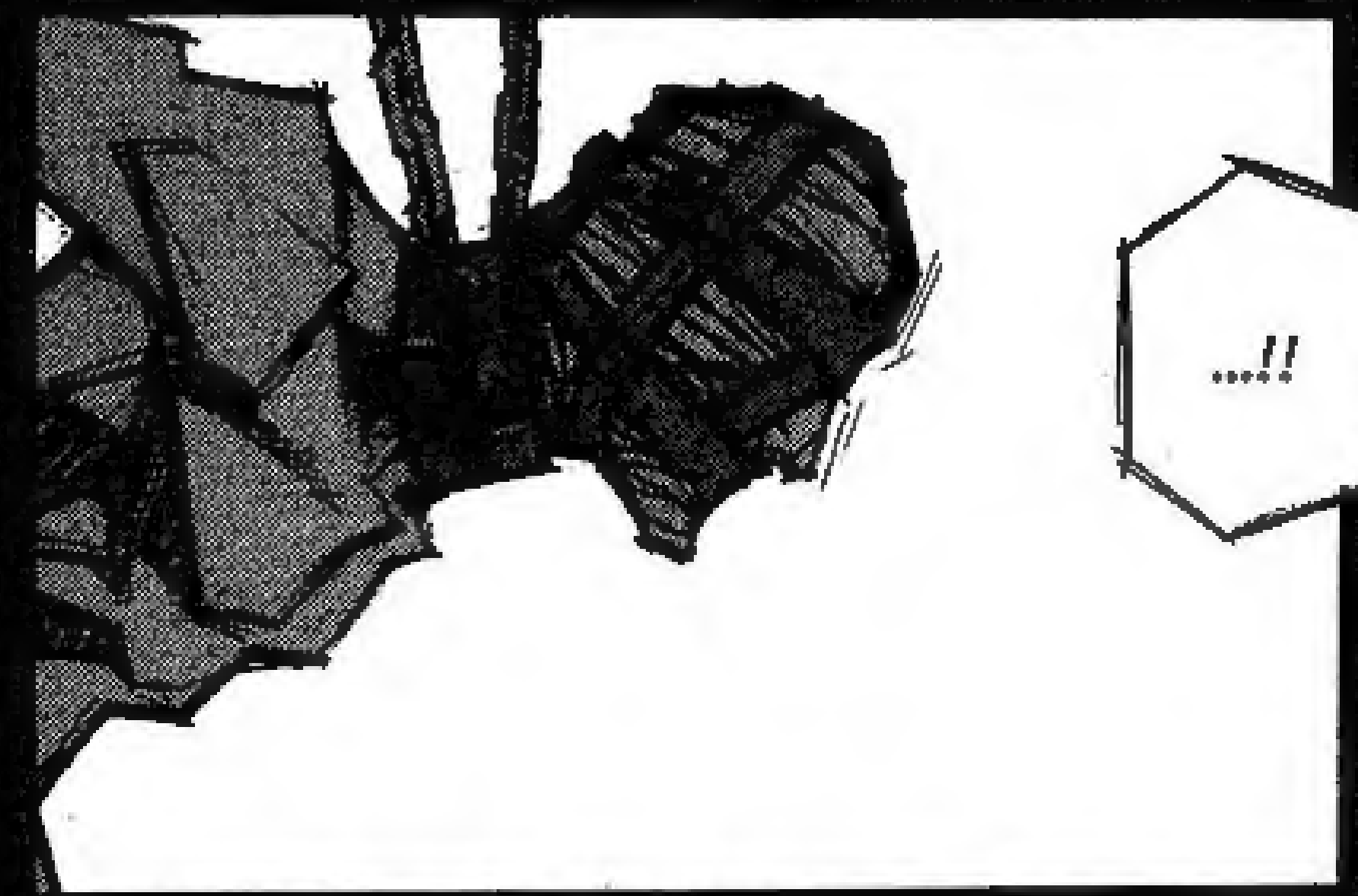
MY
ANGER
AND MY
HATRED
TOWARD
GOD...

...WILL
BE MY
WEAPONS
!



AND I
WILL USE
THESE
WEAPONS
...

...TO
HAVE MY
REVENGE
AGAINST
YOU!!



...!!



...I SEE...

HOW
INTER-
ESTING.

ANOTHER
TWIST OF
FATE!



YOU ARE
THE ONE
DESTINED
TO
COMPLETE
THE
CIRCLE...

...AND
BRING
ABOUT
MY
RESUR-
RECTION.

YOU
CANNOT
ESCAPE
YOUR
DESTINY
AS MY
APOSTLE,
BETHEAL.



IF
THAT
DESTINY
GRANTS
ME
POWER...

...I WILL
GLADLY
ACCEPT IT
SO THAT
I MIGHT
USE IT
AGAINST
YOU!

THIS MAN...



I SHALL
EMBRACE
YOUR
POWER
OF HATE,
TEMOZARELA!

I SHALL
BE YOUR
APOSTLE,
YOUR
JUDAS...

THE
BETRAYAL
BETHEAL
FELT FROM
GOD...

...WAS
EQUAL
TO THAT
FELT BY
SIR
VASCAR.

BUT WHEREAS SIR
VASCAR TURNED HIS
ANGER AGAINST THE
ONE WHO WATCHED
HIM FALL...

... AND
YOU WILL
LAMENT
EVER
COMING
TO THIS
WORLD!!

BETHEAL TURNED HIS
FACE TOWARDS THE
ONE WHO LED HIM TO
FALL-TEMOZARELA.

NEVER AGAIN WOULD
BETHEAL KNOW THE
GRACE OF GOD-HE
HAD NOTHING MORE
TO LOSE.



...

HEH...

HEH
HEH!



BWA
HA!

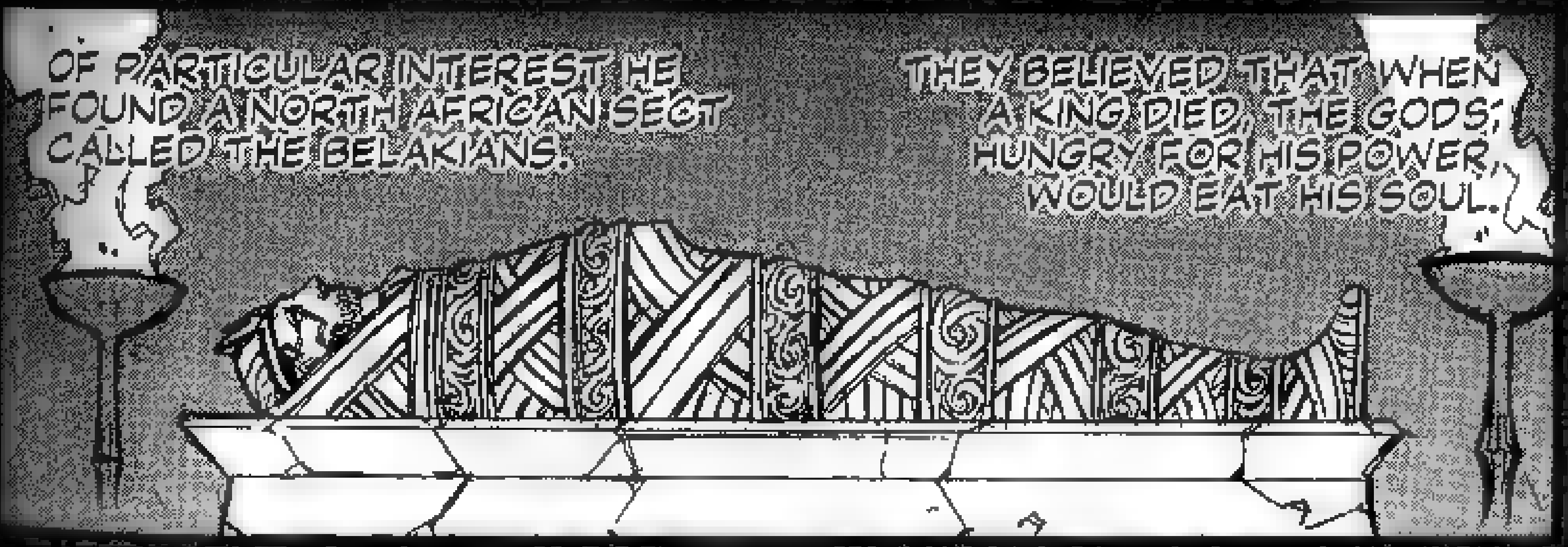
HA HA
HA!

MWA
HA HA
HA HA!

AND SO,
BETHEAL
TURNED TO
THE WAYS OF
THE HERETICS
FOR COUNSEL.

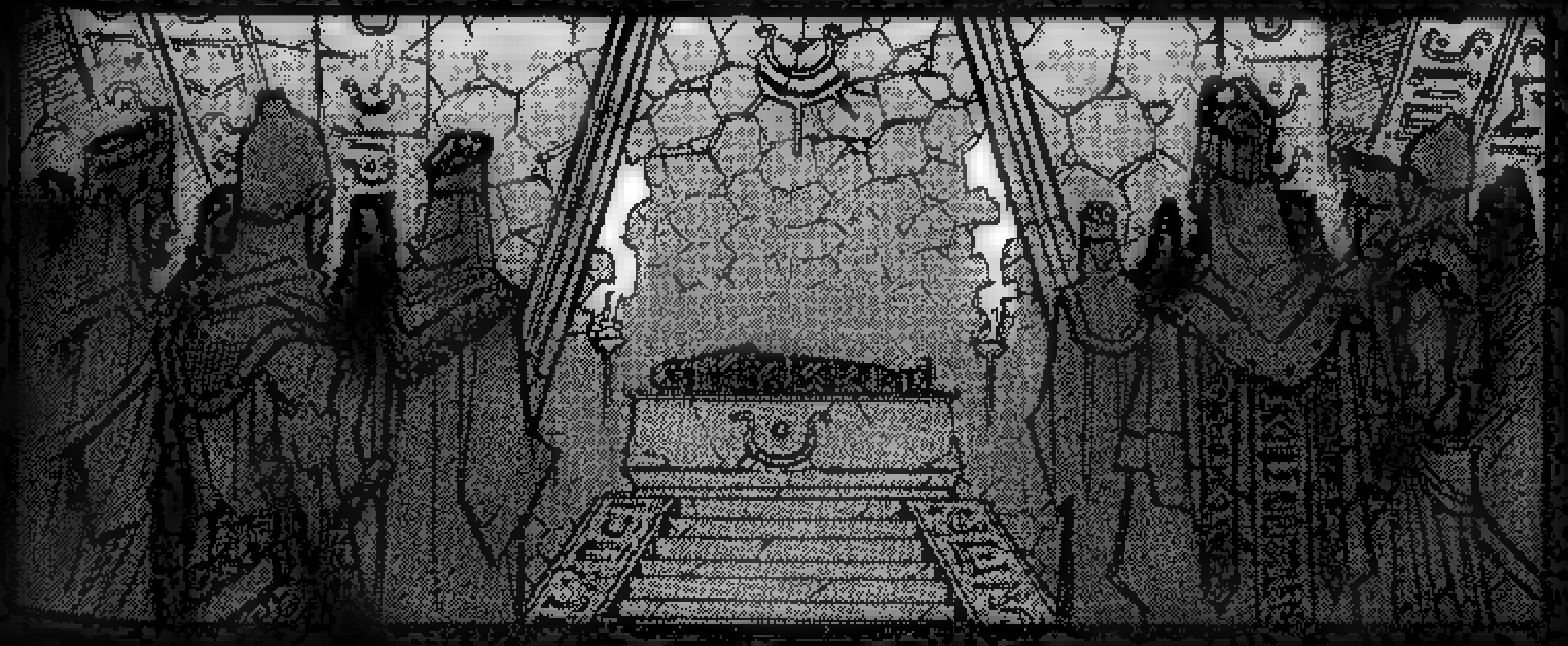


HE STUDIED
THE WRITINGS
AND ARTIFACTS
OF THOSE
SECTS HE HAD
ONCE HELPED
EXTERMINATE.



OF PARTICULAR INTEREST HE
FOUND A NORTH AFRICAN SECT
CALLED THE BELAKIANS.

THEY BELIEVED THAT WHEN
A KING DIED, THE GODS,
HUNGRY FOR HIS POWER,
WOULD EAT HIS SOUL.



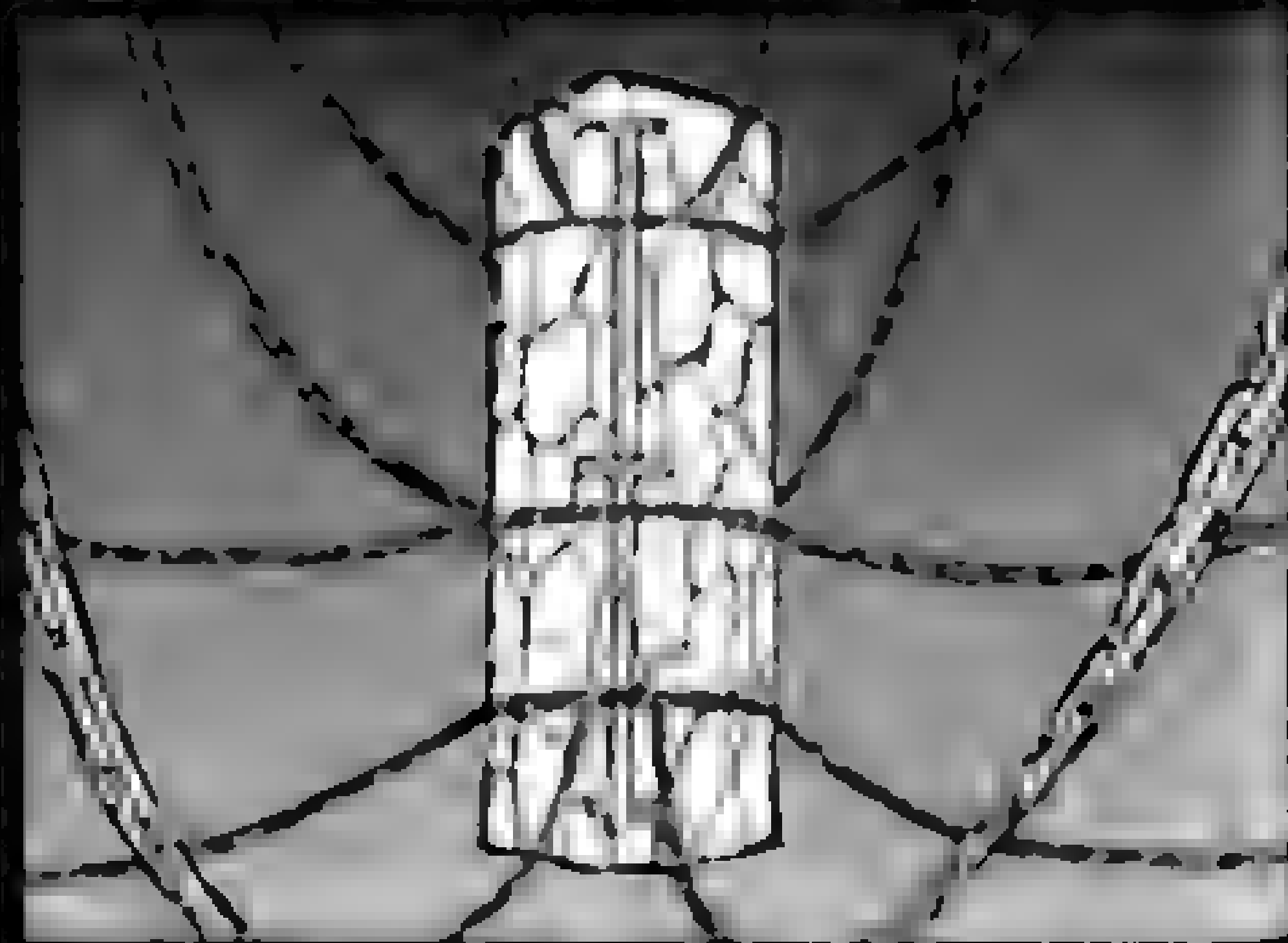
ONE KING SO
FEARED THE
LEGEND THAT
HE ORDERED
HIS HIGH PRIESTS
AND SHAMANS...



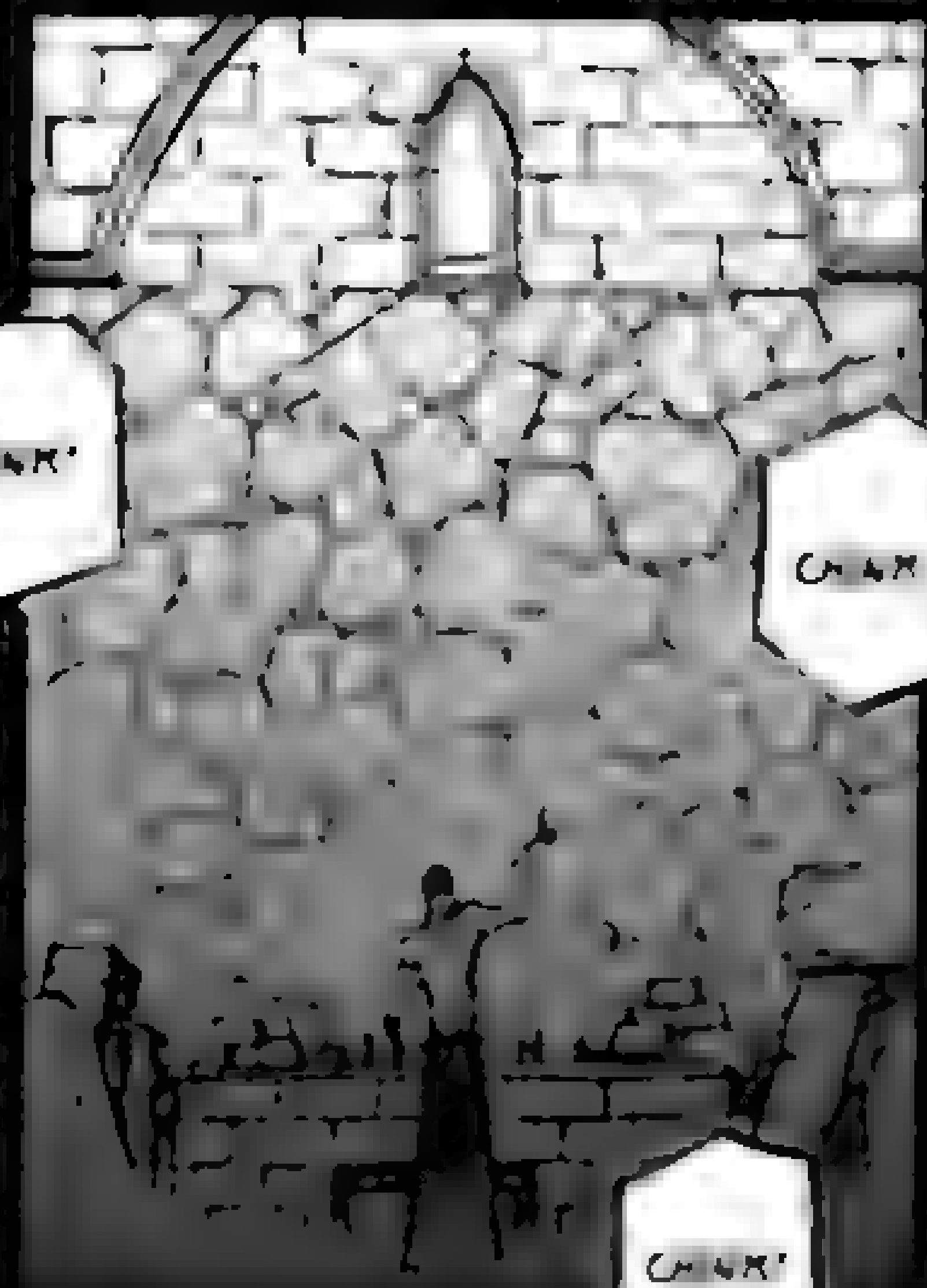
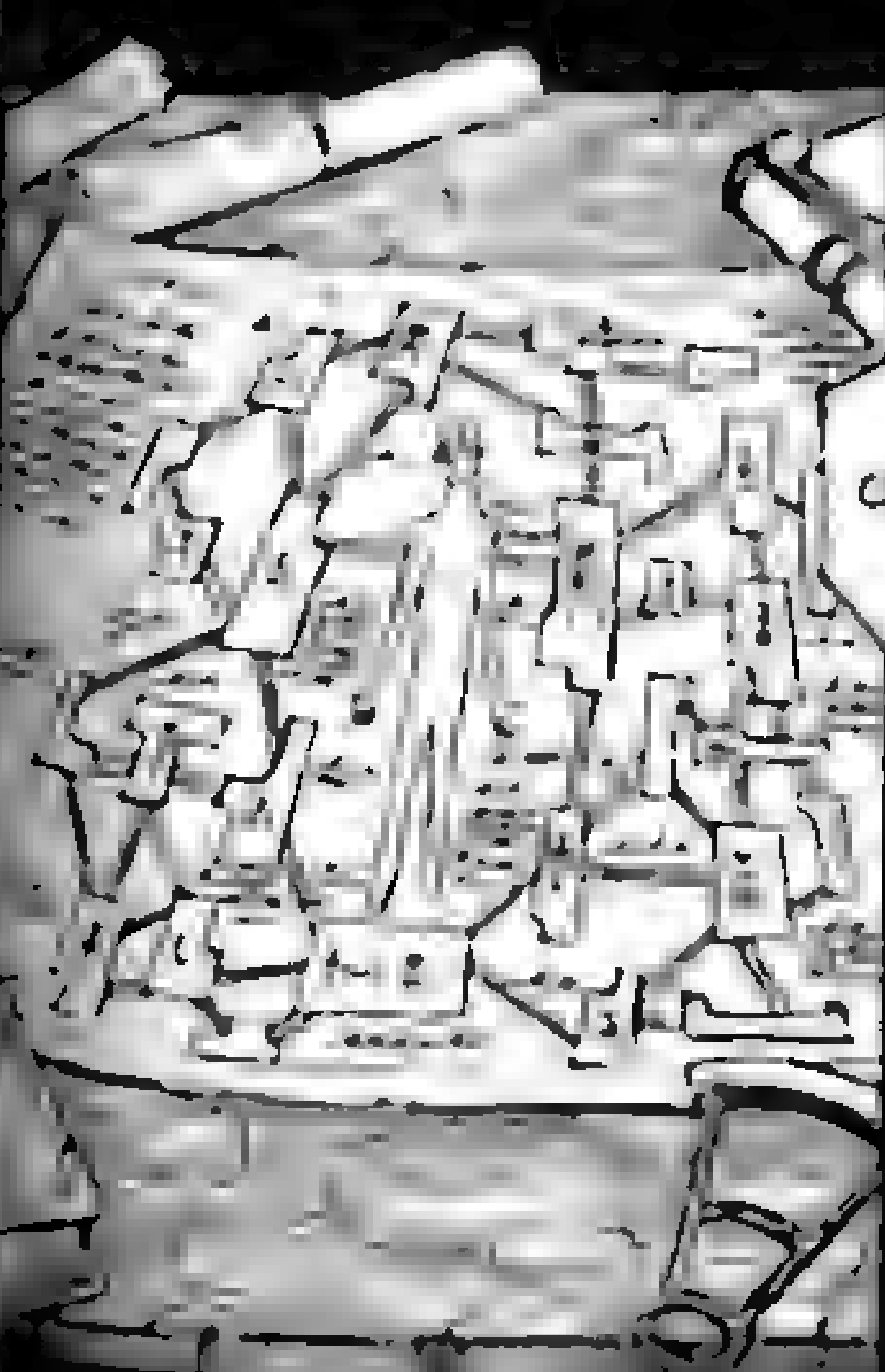
...TO DEVISE
A WAY TO
PROTECT HIS
SOUL FROM THE
HUNGRY GODS.



AFTER MANY
YEARS OF
RESEARCH
AND DARK
EXPERIMENTS,
THEY CREATED
THE DOMAS
PORADA.



SWED



CHUNK

CHUNK

CHUNK



CHINK!

KLANK!

ISFUE...
...FUE...
...FUE...

ISFUE...
...FUE...
...FUE...

KLANK!



ISFUE...
...FUE...
...FUE...

ISFUE...
...FUE...
...FUE...

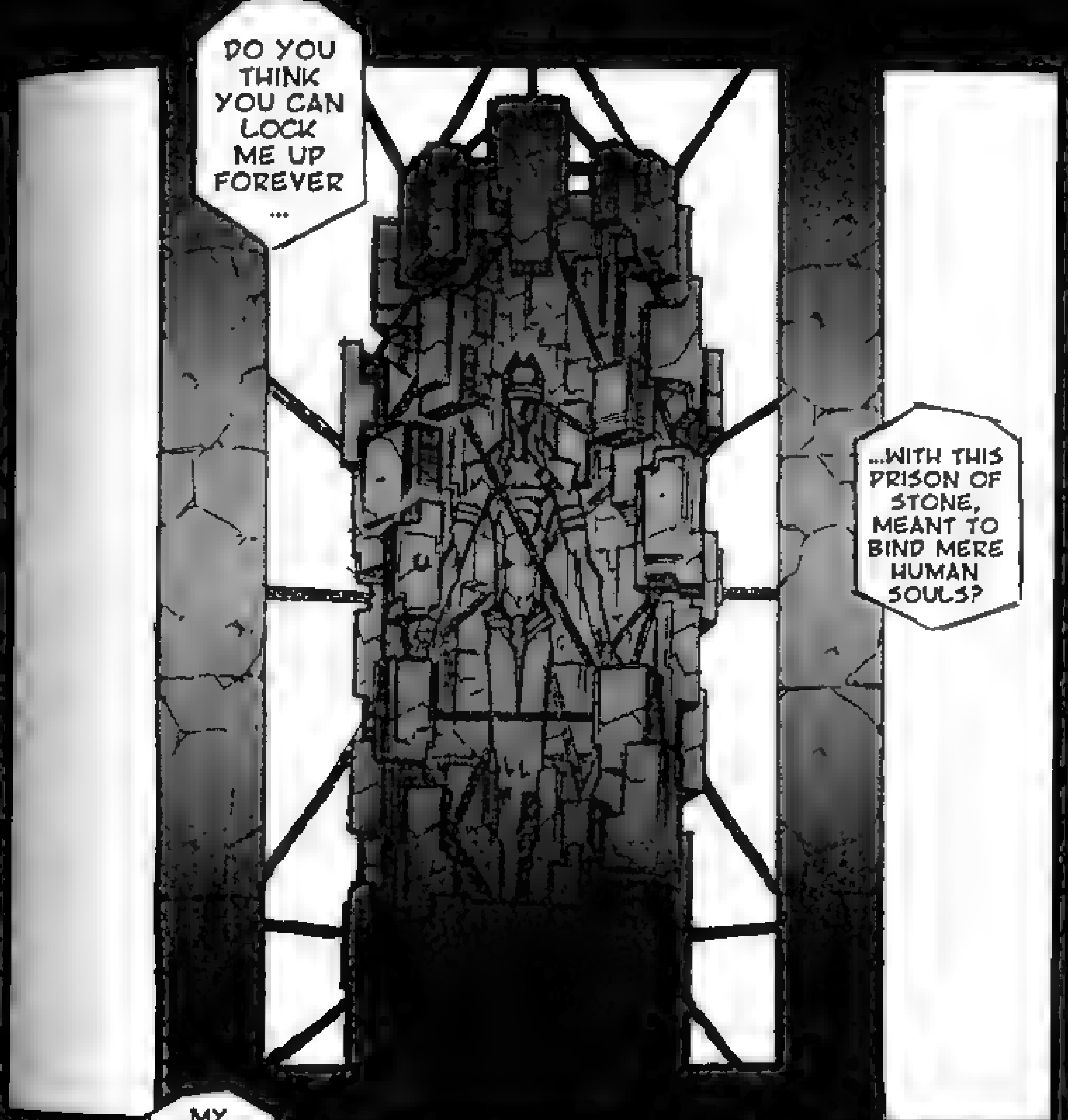
NOW...



...OUR
FIGHT
HAS
BEGUN...



TEMOZARELA!



DO YOU
THINK
YOU CAN
LOCK
ME UP
FOREVER
...

...WITH THIS
PRISON OF
STONE,
MEANT TO
BIND MERE
HUMAN
SOULS?

MY
RESUR-
RECTION
IS SET IN
MOTION.



YOU
CANNOT
STOP WHAT
FATE HAS
ORDAINED.

YOU
FORGET
THAT I
AM STILL
HUMAN

THE
POPE WILL
THAT
YOU CLAIM
GOD IS
POPE...

WHAT...?

WHY DO
YOU TRY
TO RUN
FROM
YOUR
FATHER?

I WILL NOT
GIVE MY
SOUL TO AN
ANGEL WHO
BEARS THE
GRUDGE OF A
JEALOUS

YOU
FEAR IT
TOO,
DON'T
YOU?

YOU KNOW
NOT WHAT
MY HEART
HOLDS OR
HOW I WILL
USE IT
AGAINST
YOU

NO
FOOT

IF YOU
PRIMAL
EAGE?

SHOOT?

THE
POPE
WILL
THAT
YOU
CLAIM
GOD
IS
POPE...

NO
FOOT

IF YOU
PRIMAL
EAGE?

SHOOT?

THE
HIGHER
LEVELS
ARE
BUILT
ON
THE
FLOOR



THE
HIGHER
LEVELS
ARE
BUILT
ON
THE
FLOOR

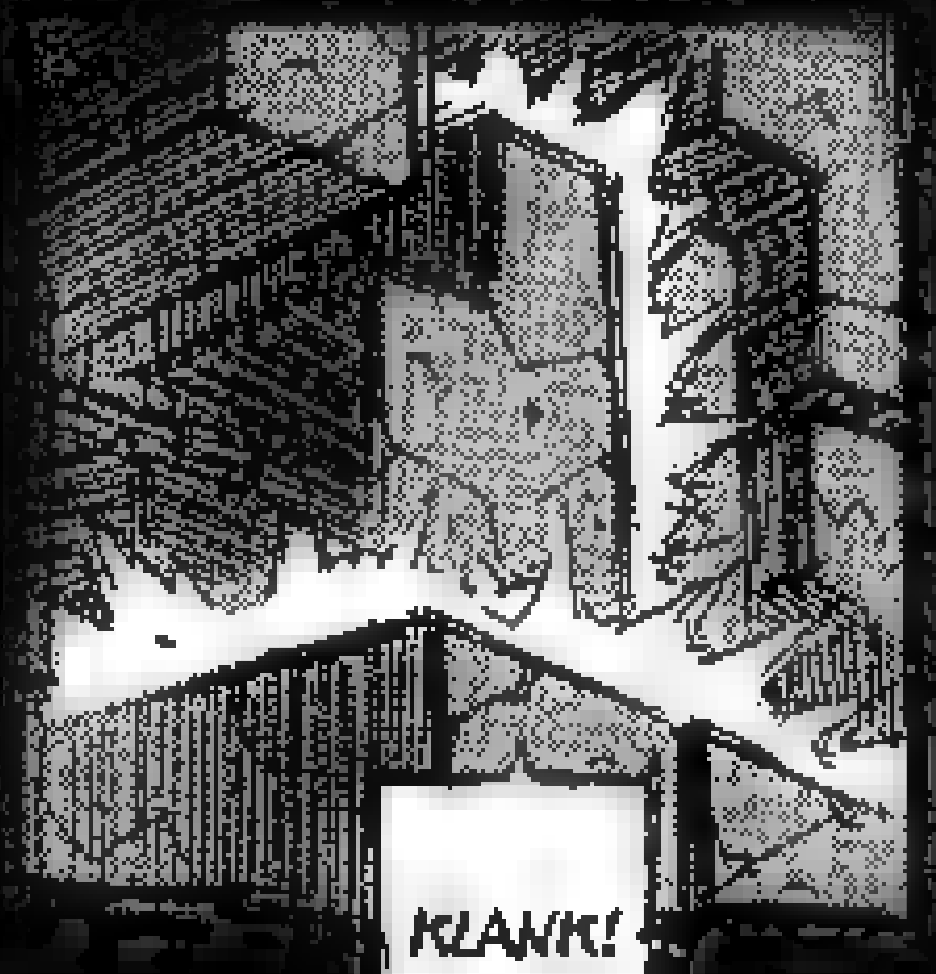
TING!



TING!



THUNK!



KLANK!



THE
HIGHER
LEVELS
ARE
BUILT
ON
THE
FLOOR

THE
HIGHER
LEVELS
ARE
BUILT
ON
THE
FLOOR



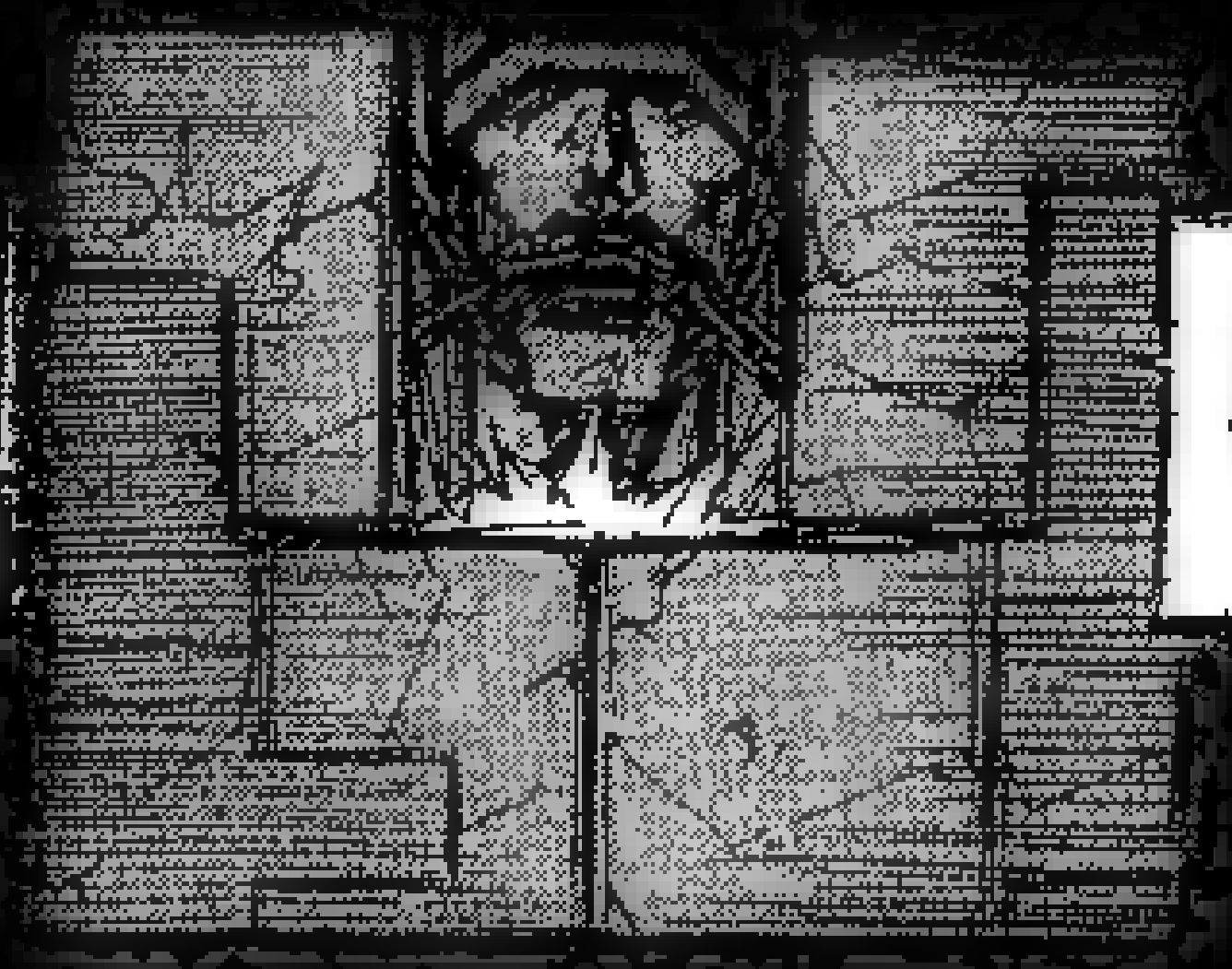
THUNK!



KLANK!

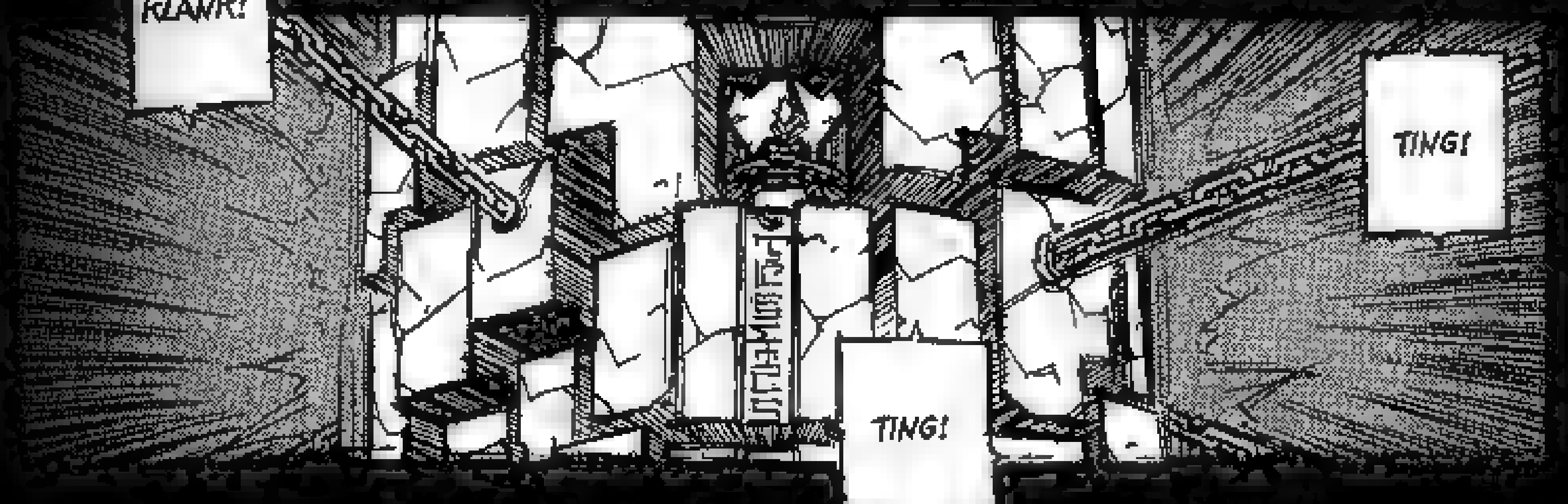
KLANK!

SHOOM!



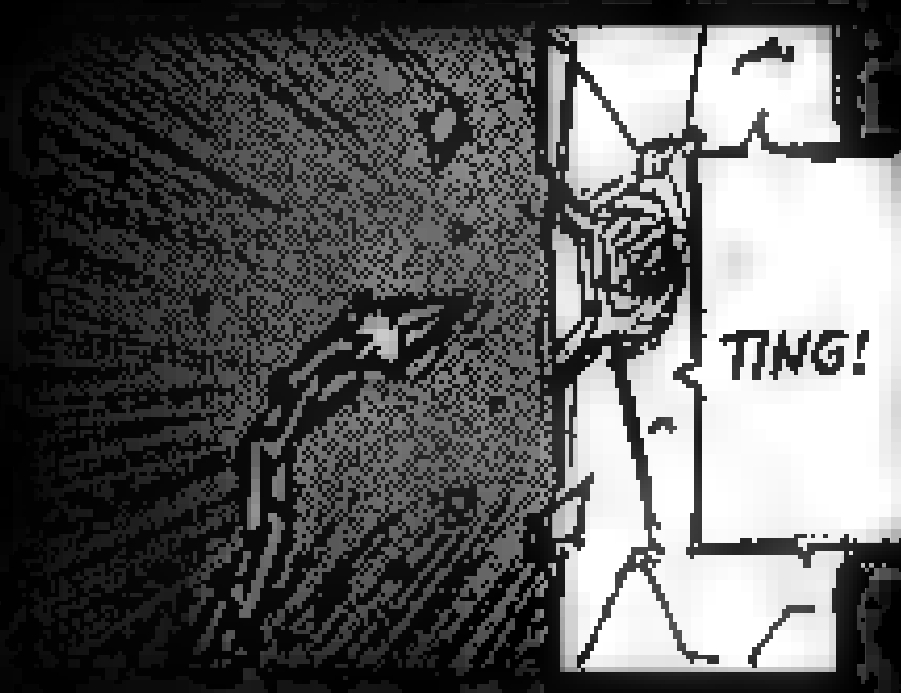
SHOOM!

KLANK!



TING!

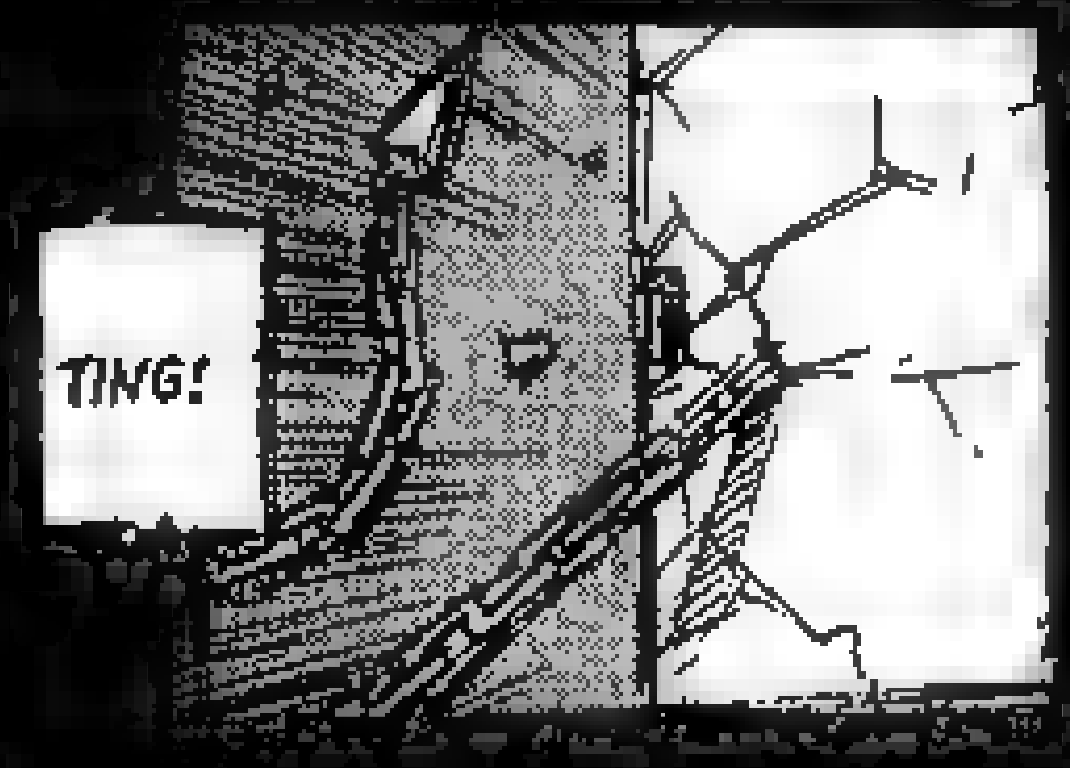
TING!



TING!

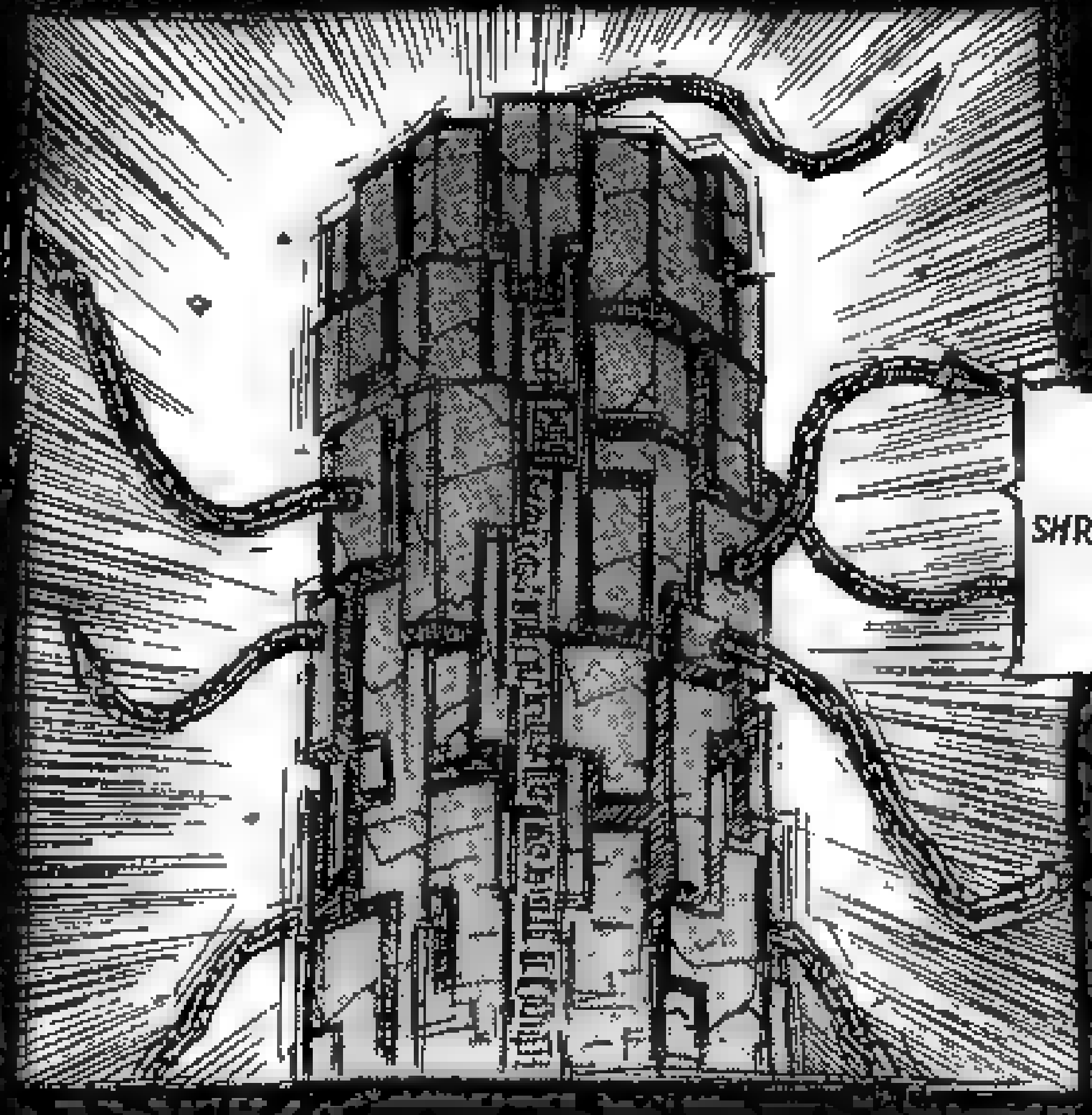


TING!



TING!

SHROOK!



SHROOK!

THE
HIGHER
LEVELS
ARE
BUILT
ON
THE
FLOOR



THE
HIGHER
LEVELS
ARE
BUILT
ON
THE
FLOOR



NO ONE
CAN...



ESCAPE
FATE





IT
DIDN'T
TAKE
LONG...

...FOR
WORD OF
BETHEAL'S
HERETICAL
BEHAVIOR TO
REACH THE
VATICAN.



HE WAS
LAST SEEN
HEADING SOUTH
FOR THE COAST.
INVESTIGATORS
LATER FOUND
THAT A SLAVE
TRADER...

...HAD
SOLD HIS
SHIP TO A
MYSTERIOUS
MAN WITH
UNKNOWN
CARGO NOT
LONG AFTER

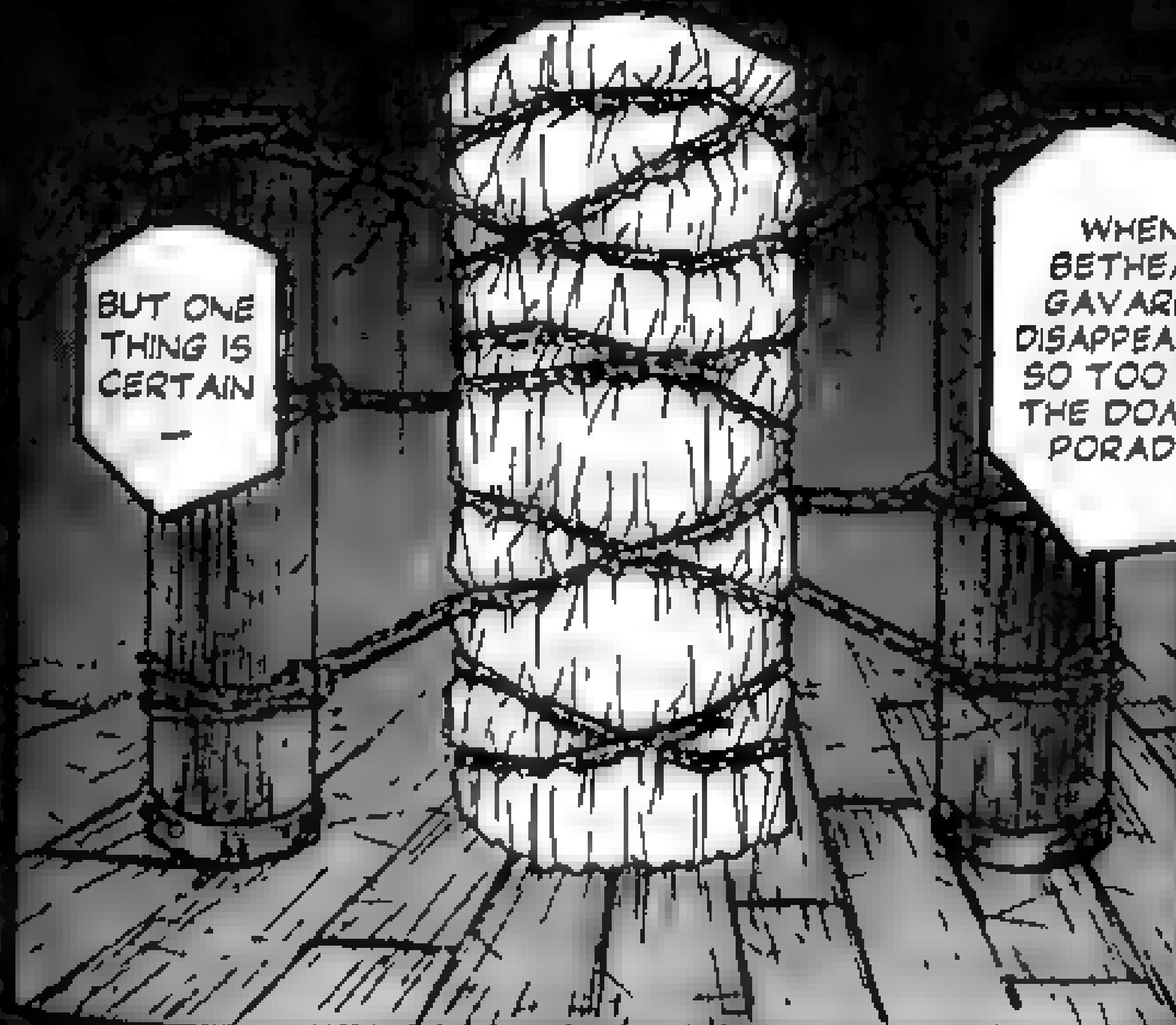
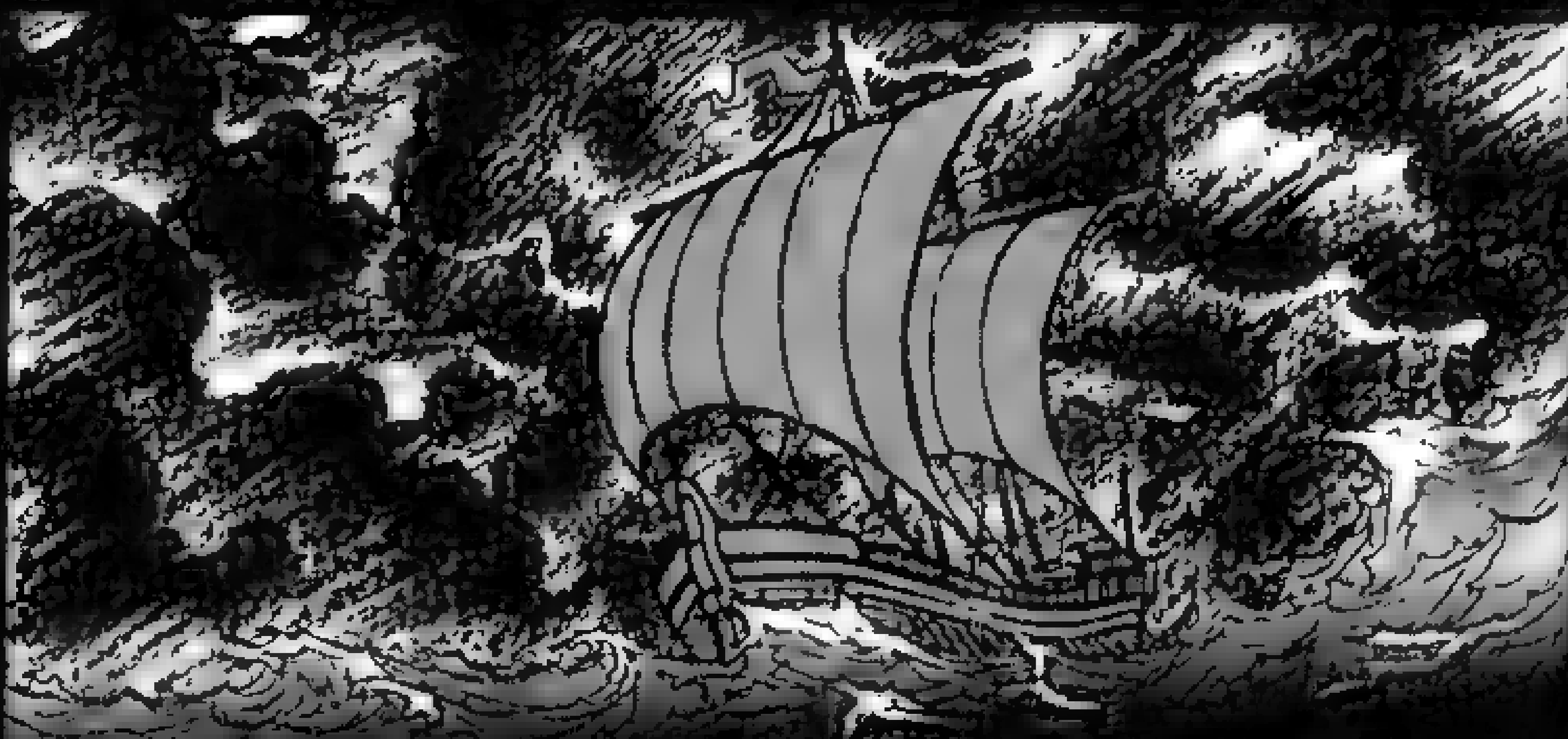


BUT BY THE
TIME PAPAL
INVESTIGATORS
HAD REACHED
LOURDES...

...BETHEAL
HAD
DISAPPEARED.

WHAT
HAPPENED
TO
BETHEAL
AFTER
THAT...

...NO ONE
HAS EVER
RECORDED.



BUT ONE
THING IS
CERTAIN
—

WHEN
BETHEAL
GAVARRE
DISAPPEARED,
SO TOO DID
THE DOMAS
PORADA.



THE
CONTENTS
OF THIS
DOCUMENT
MUST HAVE
BEEN
RECORDED
...



...BY THE
INVESTIGA-
TORS SENT
FROM THE
VATICAN.

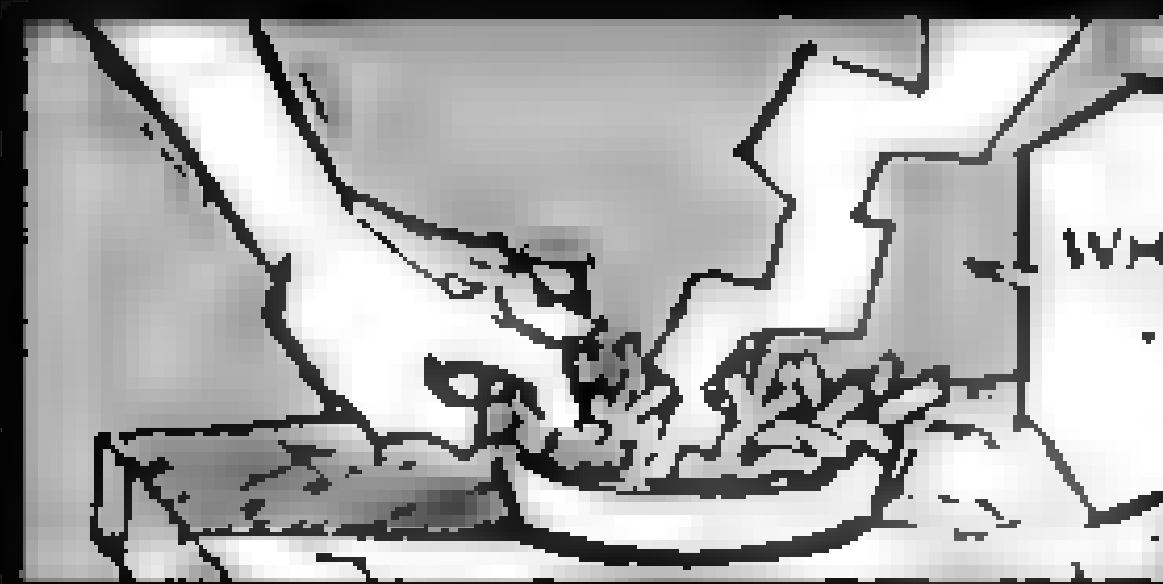
I-I
DON'T
KNOW...

IN ANY
CASE, IT'S
A GREAT
DISCOVERY

BUT IF
IT DOES
TURN OUT
TO BE
TRUE...



...THIS WILL
CHANGE THE
FACE OF
RELIGION IN
THE WORLD
FOREVER.



WHEW
...

I JUST
CAN'T--

THESE
STORES



...WOULD
TURN OUR
CHURCH
UPSIDE
DOWN IF
THEY GOT
OUT.



I'M
NOT
SURE
...

...WHAT
TO MAKE
OF ALL
THIS.



WE ARE SO
CLOSE TO
MAKING THE
BREAKTHROUGH!
WE MUST
DECIPHER THE
DOMAS
PORADA...



...NOT JUST
FOR THE
CHURCH,
BUT AS
SCHOLARS!

FATHER
IVAN...



...YOU
MUST
HAVE AN
OPINION.

FATHER
ISAACS

HAVE
YOU FOR-
GOTTEN
FATHER
ASHLEY?

BESIDES
...

YES?



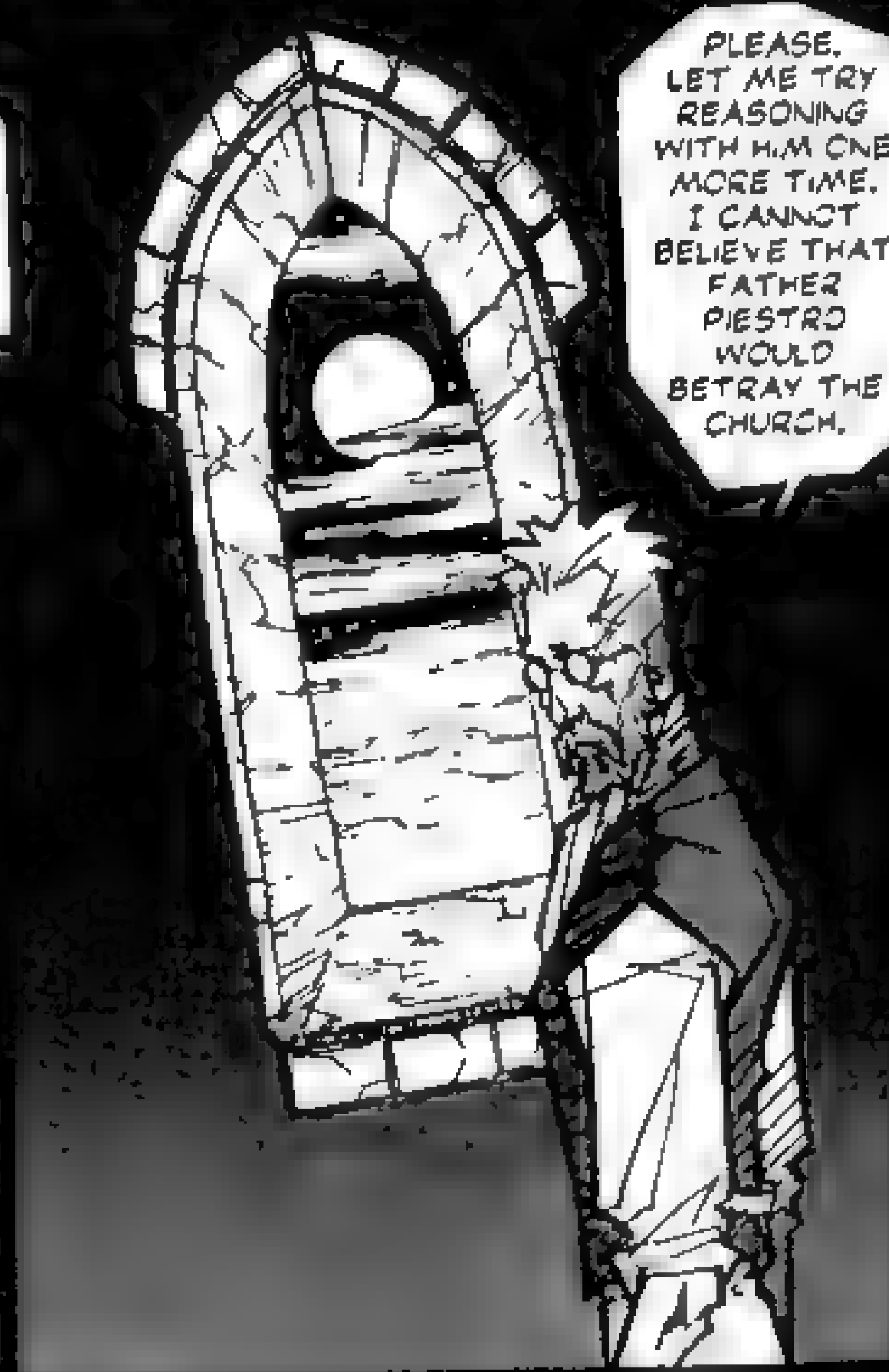
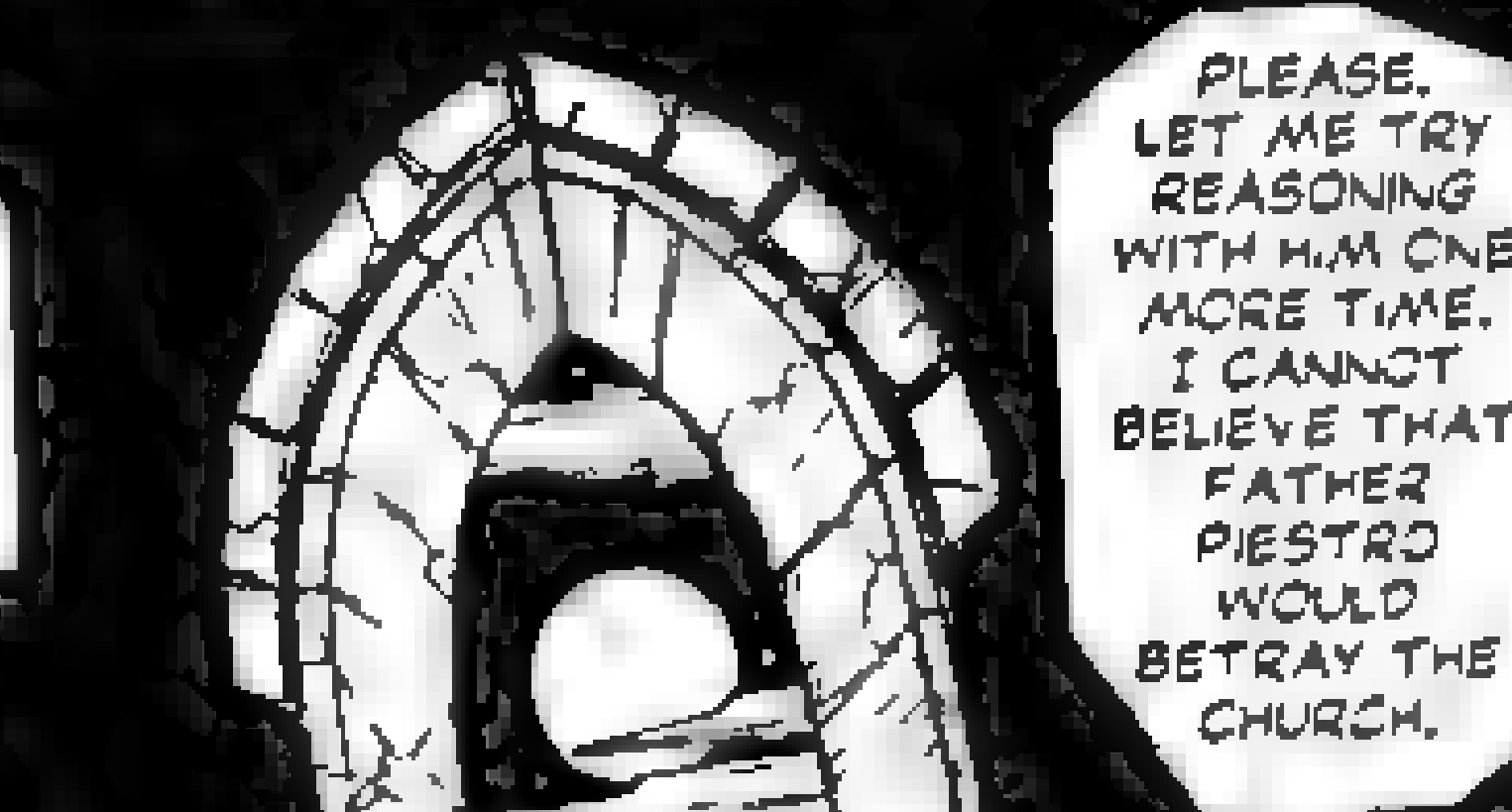
DO
YOU
THINK
THIS

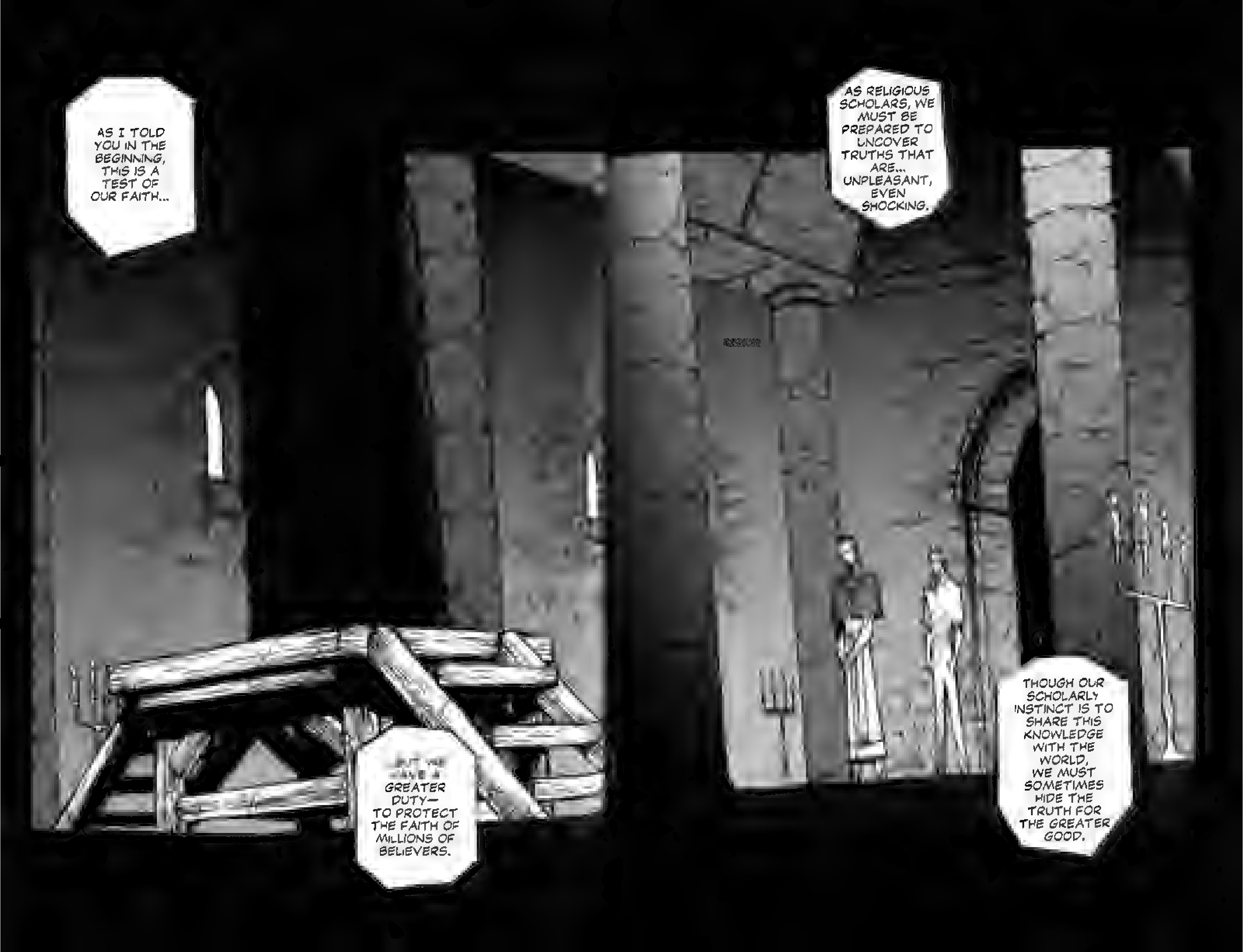
BOOK
BEARS
ANY
AUTHEN-
TICITY?



WE ARE
PLAYING
WITH SERIOUS
FORCES HERE.
DO NOT TAKE
YOUR FAITH
SO LIGHTLY!

...THERE
IS NO
EVIDENCE
THAT THIS
BOOK IS
VALID.





AS I TOLD
YOU IN THE
BEGINNING,
THIS IS A
TEST OF
OUR FAITH...

AS RELIGIOUS
SCHOLARS, WE
MUST BE
PREPARED TO
UNCOVER
TRUTHS THAT
ARE...
UNPLEASANT,
EVEN
SHOCKING.

BUT OUR
HIGHER
GREATER
DUTY—
TO PROTECT
THE FAITH OF
MILLIONS OF
BELIEVERS.

THOUGH OUR
SCHOLARLY
INSTINCT IS TO
SHARE THIS
KNOWLEDGE
WITH THE
WORLD,
WE MUST
SOMETIMES
HIDE THE
TRUTH FOR
THE GREATER
GOOD.

THE
ENEMY
DOES
EXIST,
FATHER
IVAN.

WE MUST
UNDERSTAND
HIM IN ORDER
TO FIGHT HIM.

THAT
BOOK...

DO YOU
KNOW WHY
I SHOWED
IT TO YOU
FIRST?

...

WHEN I
SAW YOUR
RECORD
AND READ
YOUR
WORK...

...I WAS
CONFIDENT
THAT YOU
AND I THINK
THE SAME
WAY.

EVEN
NOW...

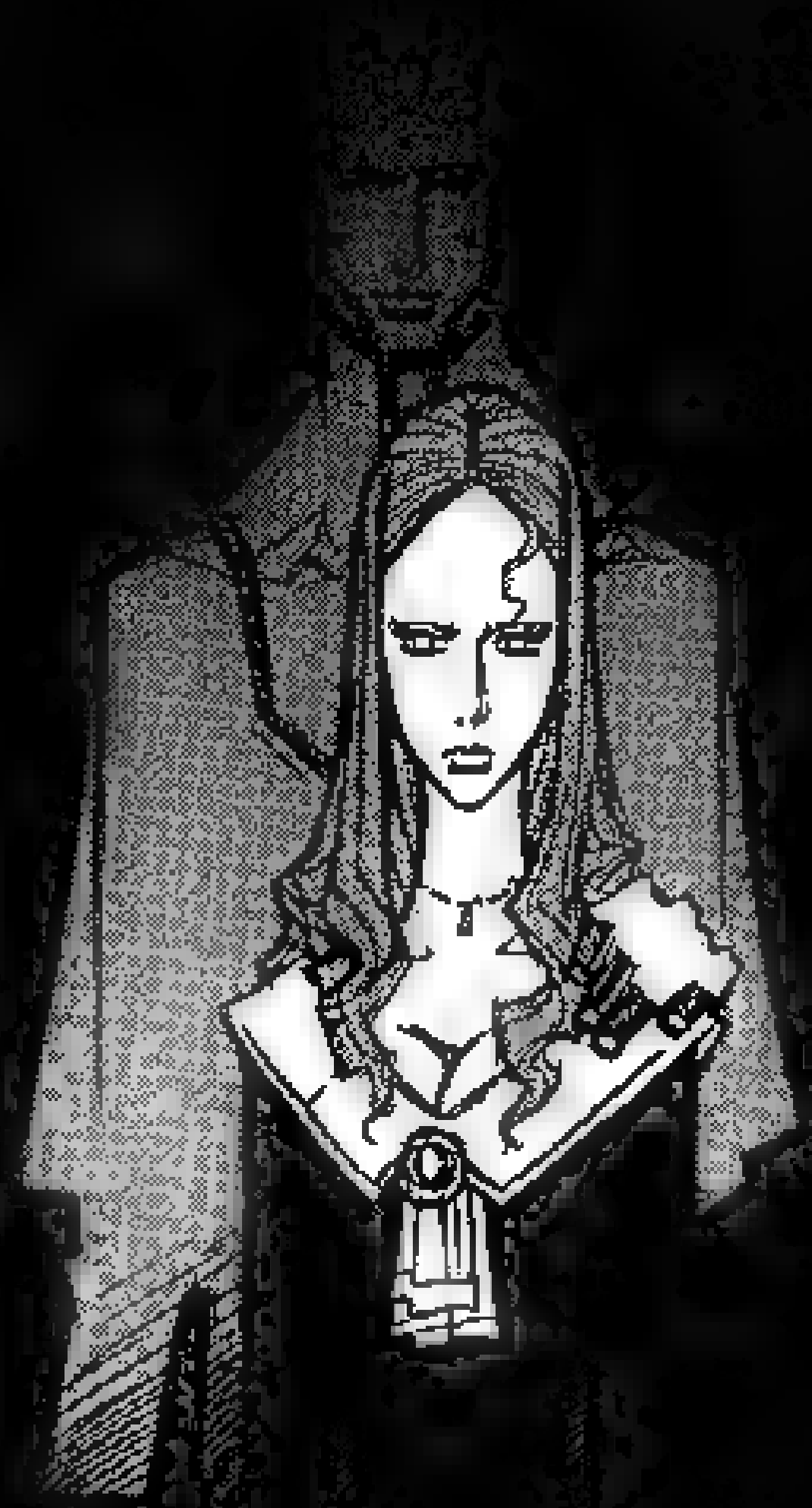
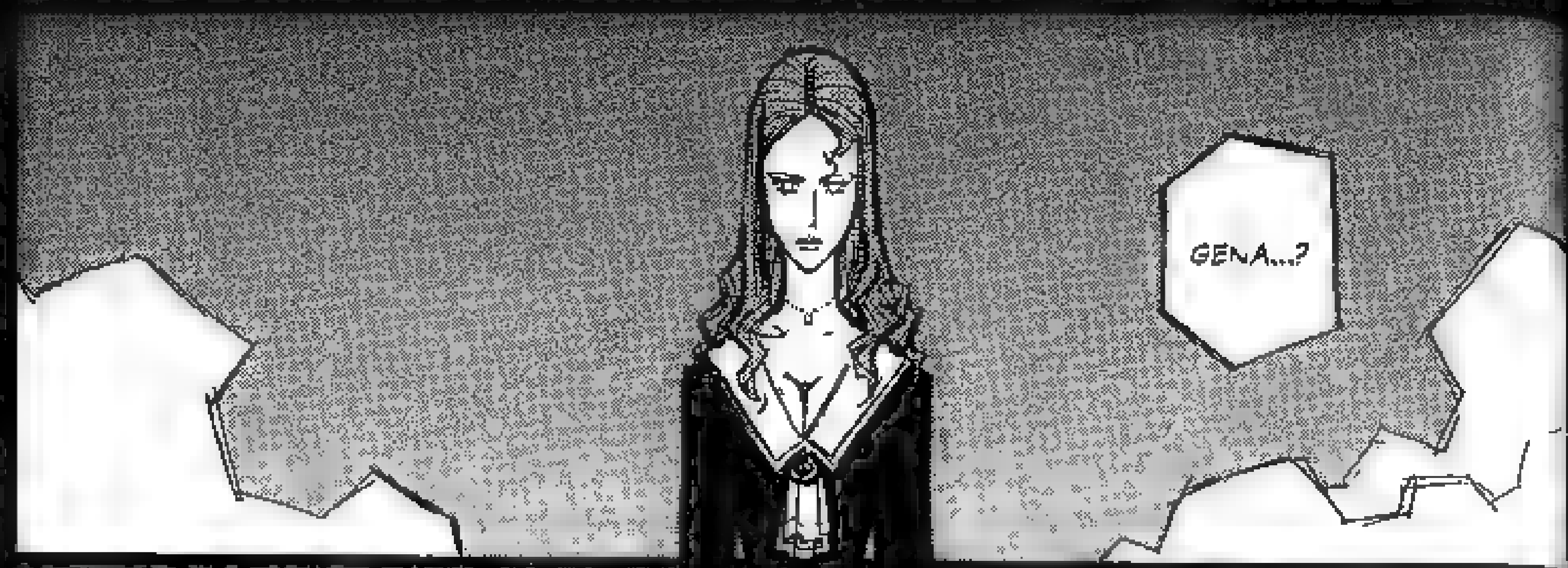
...I
BELIEVE
MY
DECISION
WAS
RIGHT.

AFTER HEARING
FATHER PIETRO'S
WORDS, MY
RESEARCH PROGRESSED
AMAZINGLY FAST.

THE SCHOLARLY
DRIVE OF MY
SEMINARY DAYS
WAS STIRRED
UP ONCE MORE.

I BLOCKED OUT
MY SURROUNDINGS
AND MY PEERS AND
LOST MYSELF IN MY
PRIVATE OBSESSION
OF PURE RESEARCH.

THE CLOSER I CAME
TO THE UNRAVELING THE
SECRET, THE LESS I
CONCERNED MYSELF WITH
THE IMPLICATIONS OF
WHAT I WAS DOING.





PRIEST

TOXVUE®

PRIEST

SIRHC-2004.01.26

SYNOPSIS:

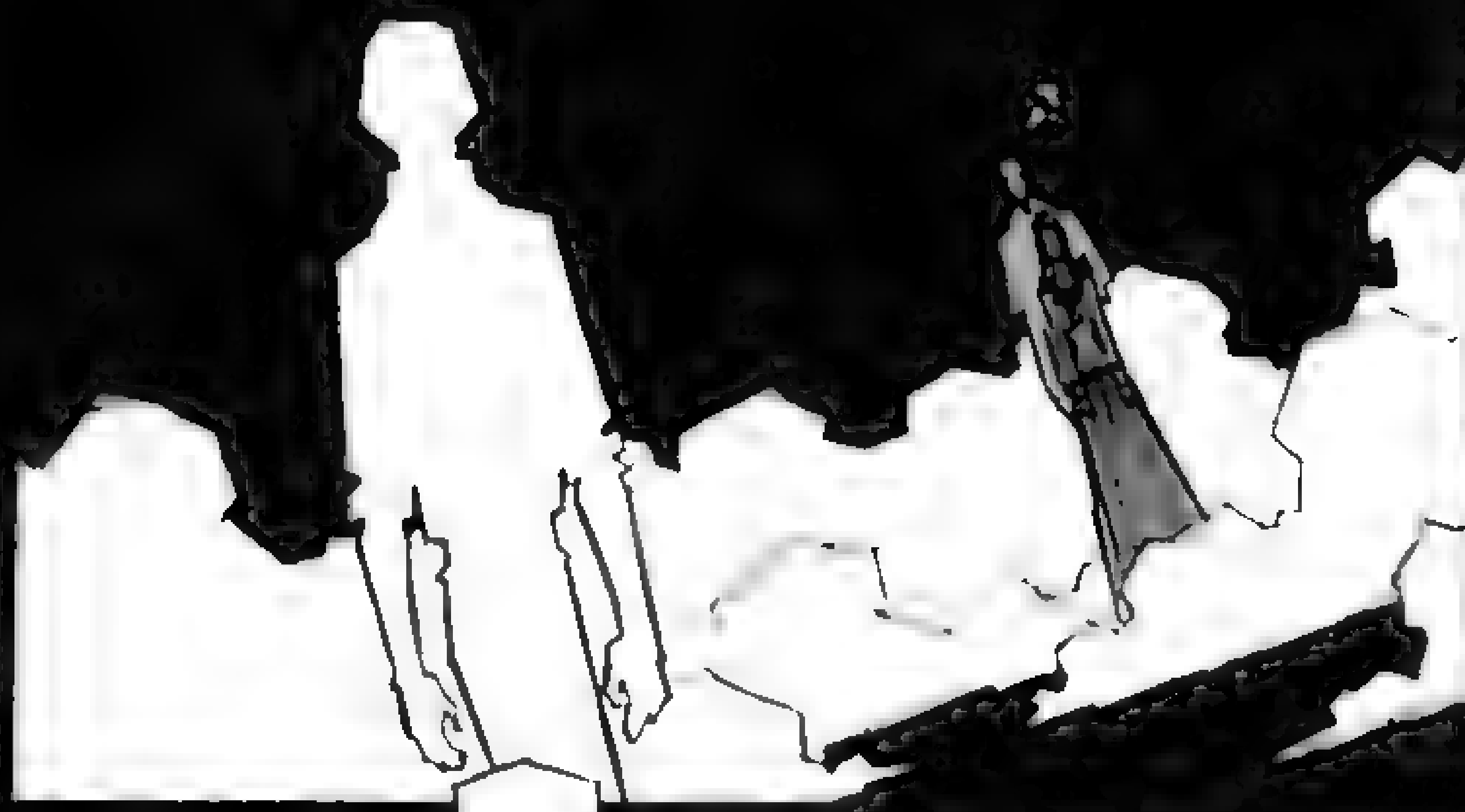
HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO THE PRIEST AND WITCH HUNTER BETHEAL SAVARRE TRIED THE HERETIC VASCAR OF GULLON IN A SECRET COURT. WHAT HE REALIZED TOO LATE WAS THAT WHEN VASCAR CLAIMED TO BE THE FALLEN ARCHANGEL TEMOZARELA, BENT ON CORRUPTING THE RACE OF MAN, IT WAS NEITHER LIE NOR MADMAN'S RANT. IN ORDER TO CONTAIN TEMOZARELA, BETHEAL DREW FROM THE LORE OF ANCIENT CULTS TO CREATE THE DOMAS PORADA, THE MATRIX OF SILENCE. THE VATICAN INVESTIGATORS SENT TO INVESTIGATE BETHEAL FOUND NO SIGN OF HIM OR HIS CREATION-THE FALLEN PRIEST AND FALLEN ANGEL DISAPPEARED FROM HISTORY, UNTIL NOW. IN A FORGOTTEN ABBEY IN THE WASTELANDS OF THE AMERICA'S OLD WEST, THE DOMAS PORADA HAS BEEN FOUND, AND A BAND OF RESEARCHERS TRY TIRELESSLY TO OPEN IT NOT KNOWING THE EVIL IT CONTAINS.

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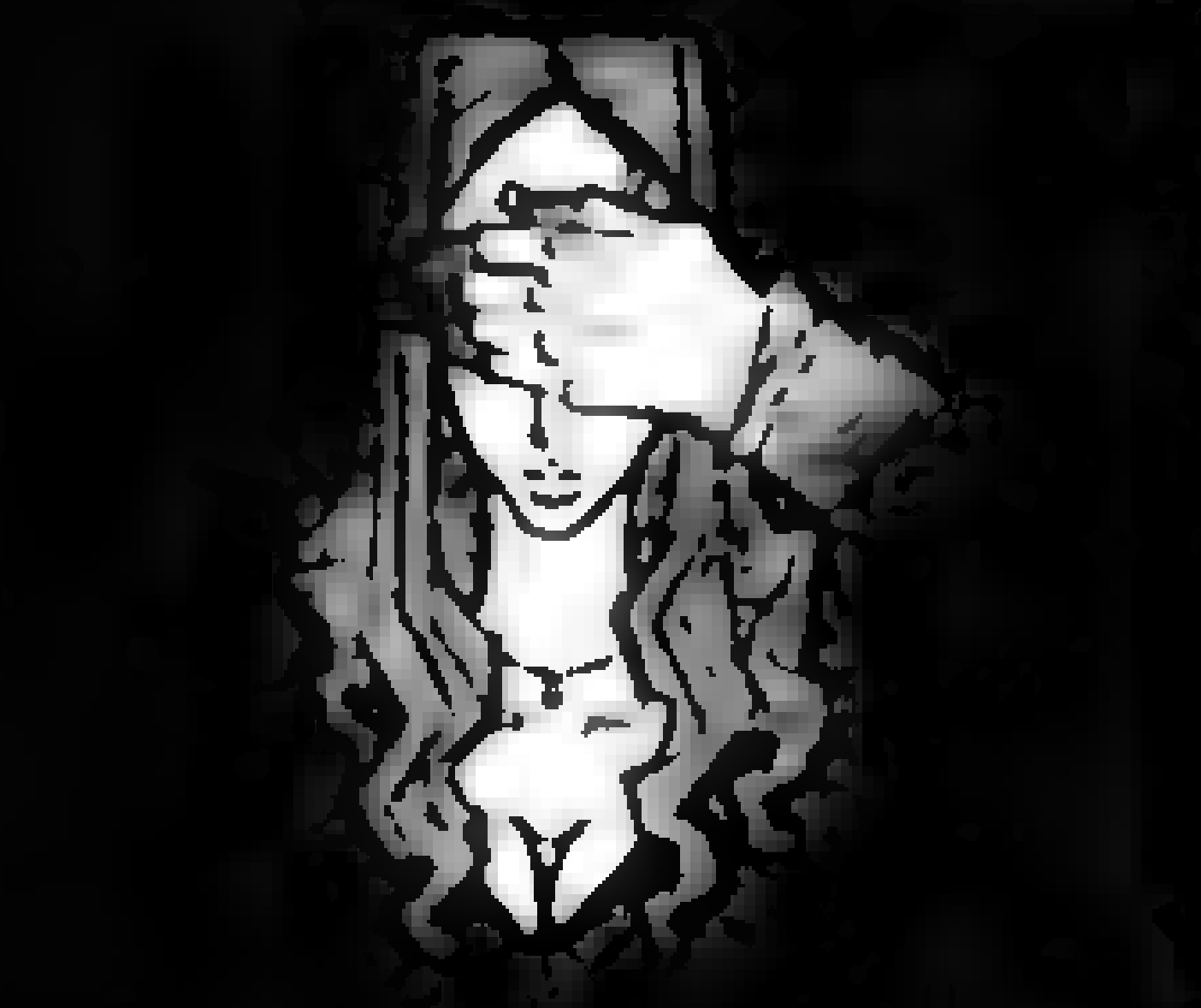
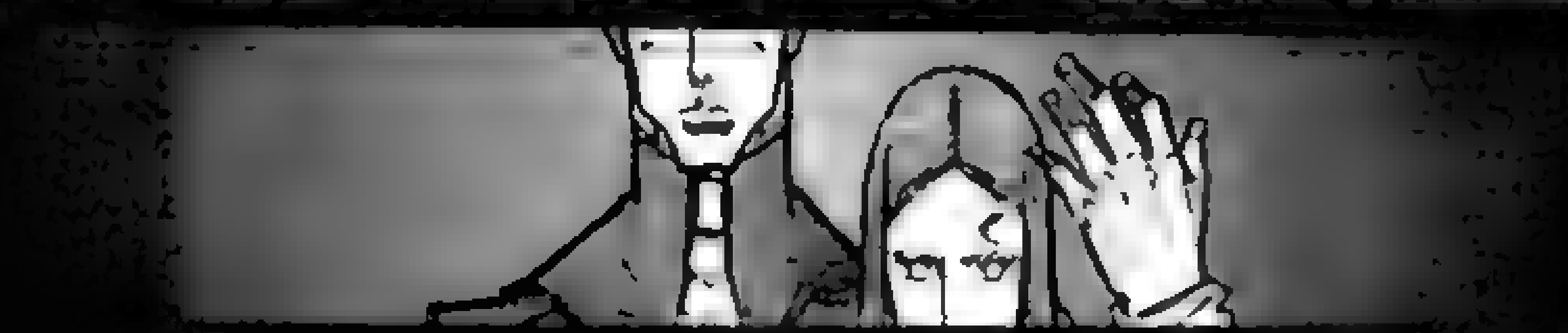
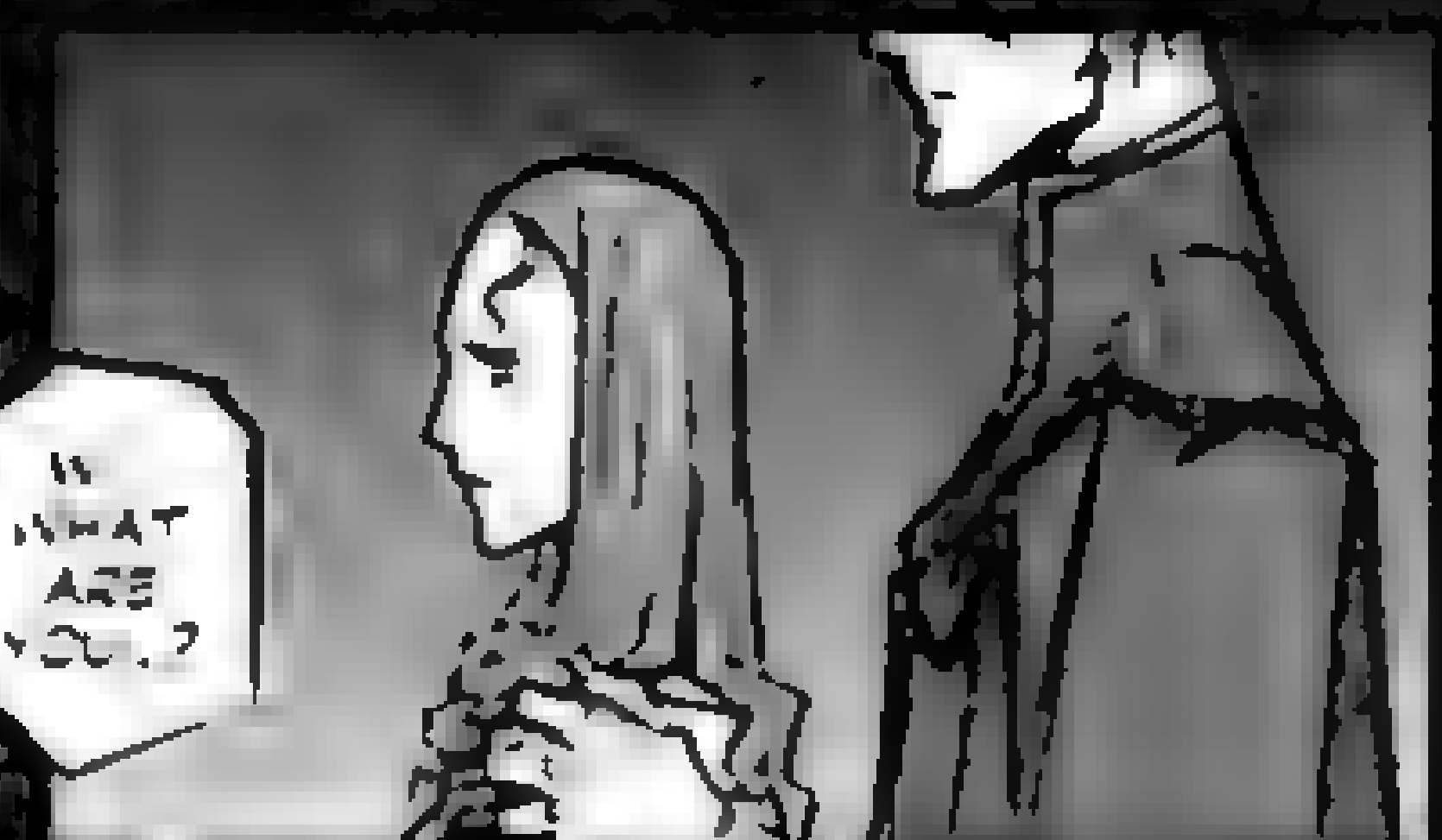
ENJOY!!!!



GENA



WHAT ARE YOU?



!



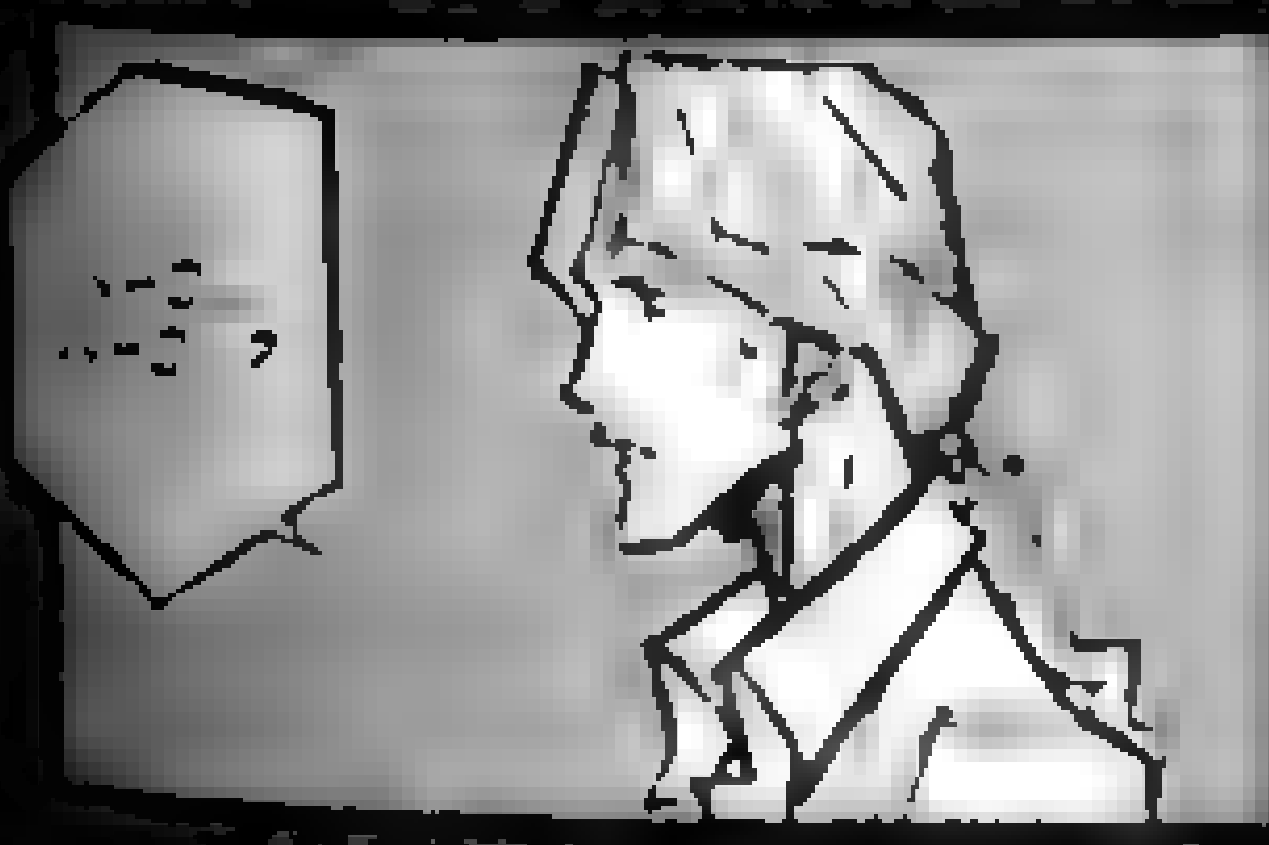
NOTHING BUT TRAGEDY LIES AT THE END OF YOUR PURSUITS. FATHER SCHOLAR.



YOU PREPARE ON A WAR THAT IS BLOODIER THAN ANYTHING YOU CAN IMAGINE.



TURN BACK NOW BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE.



WHAT ARE YOU?



STAND BACK!



DO NOT AWAKEN US...

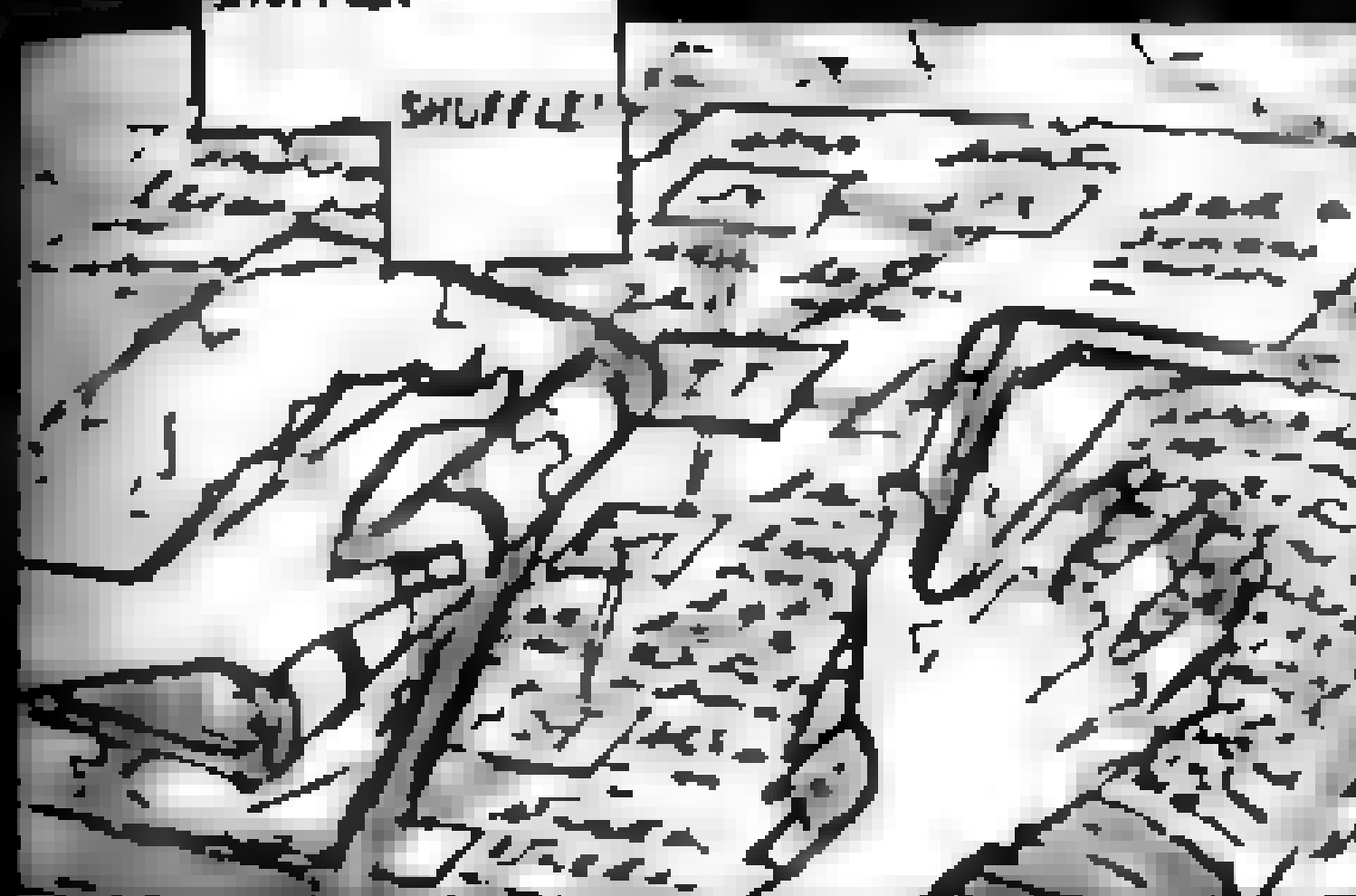
...FROM OUR CURSED REST!!!

GASP!



SHUFFLE!

SHUFFLE!



WHY...
WHY
DON'T
I...

SEE
THAT
BEFORE?



BETHEA?

WAS
THAT
HAPPY?



THAT
HAS TO
BE IT"

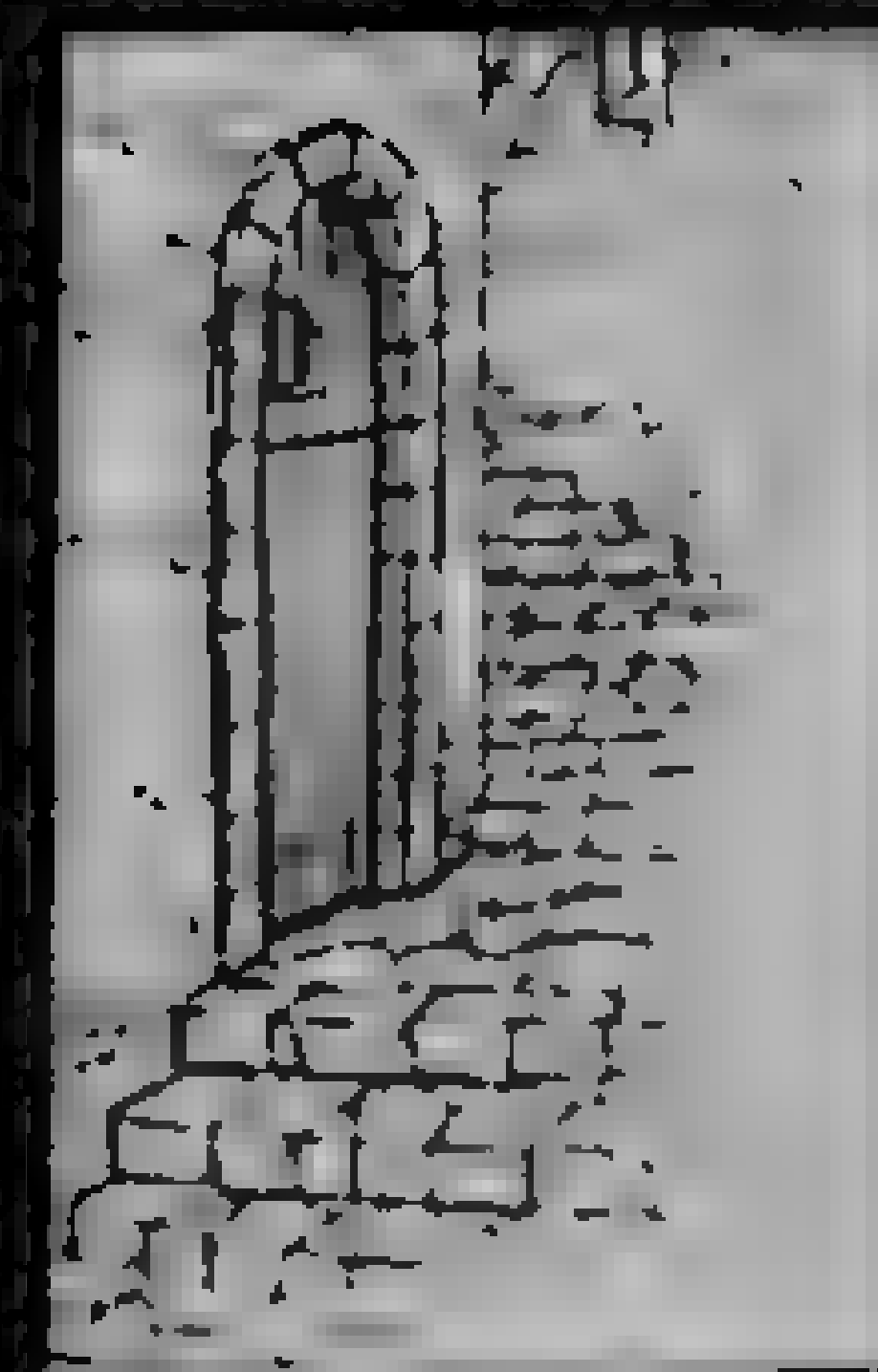
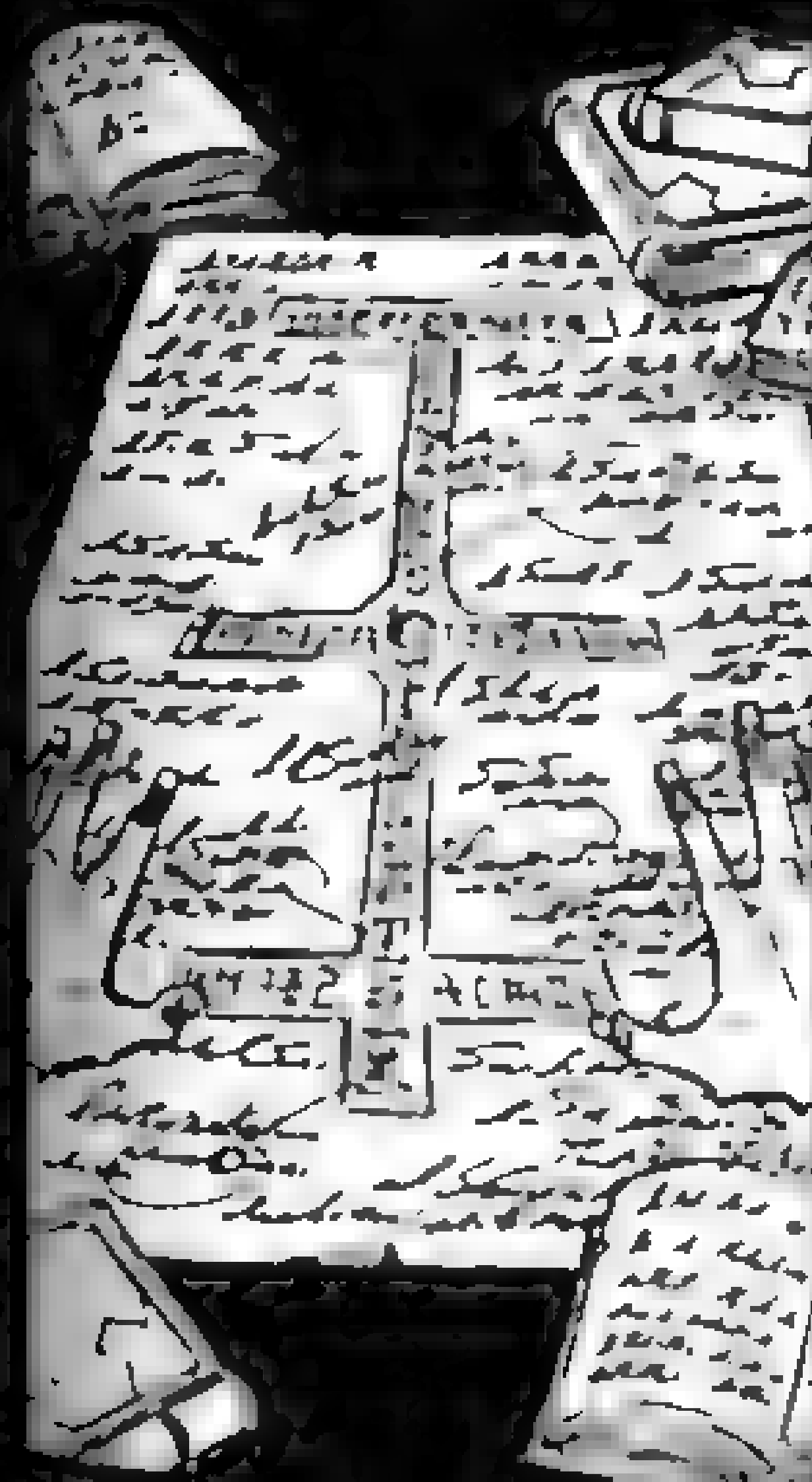


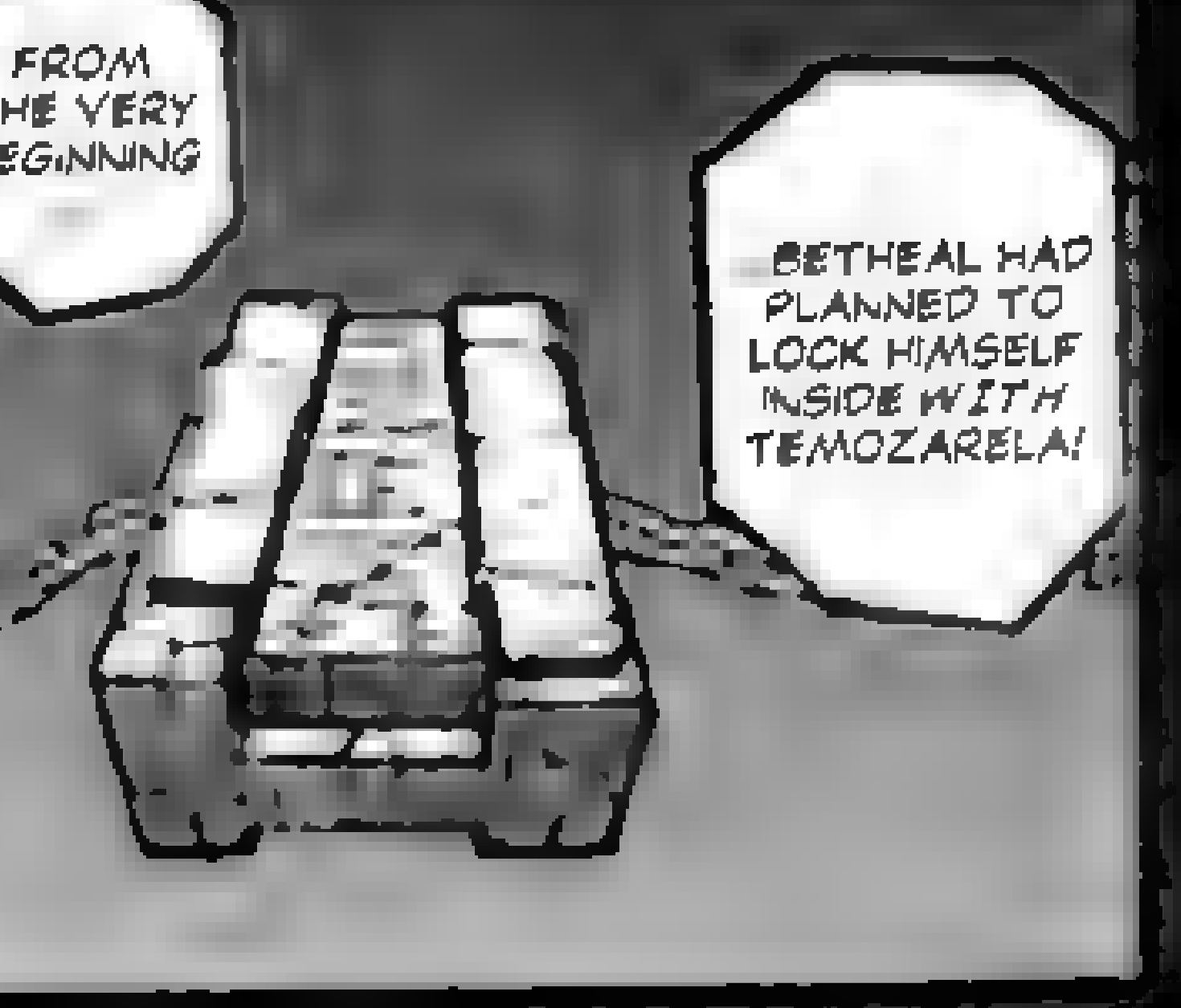
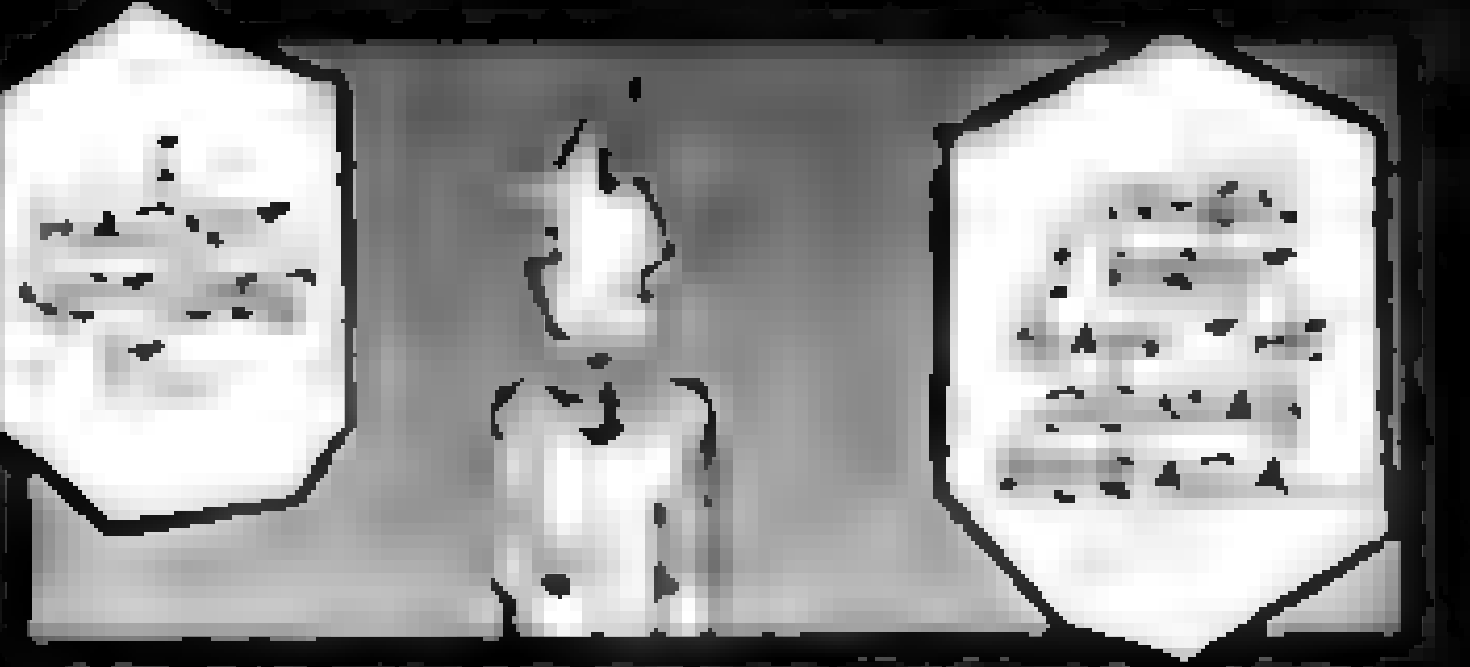
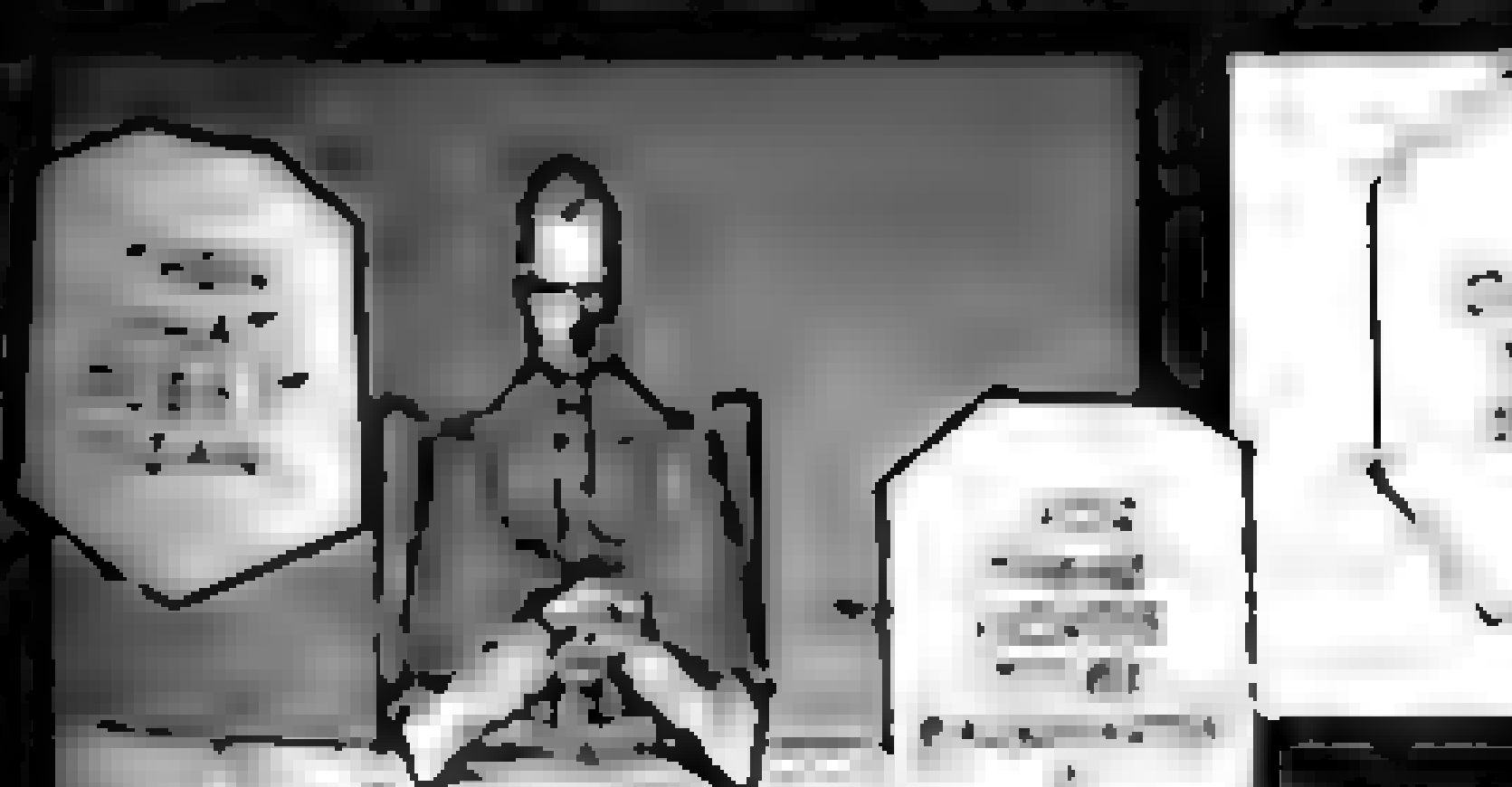
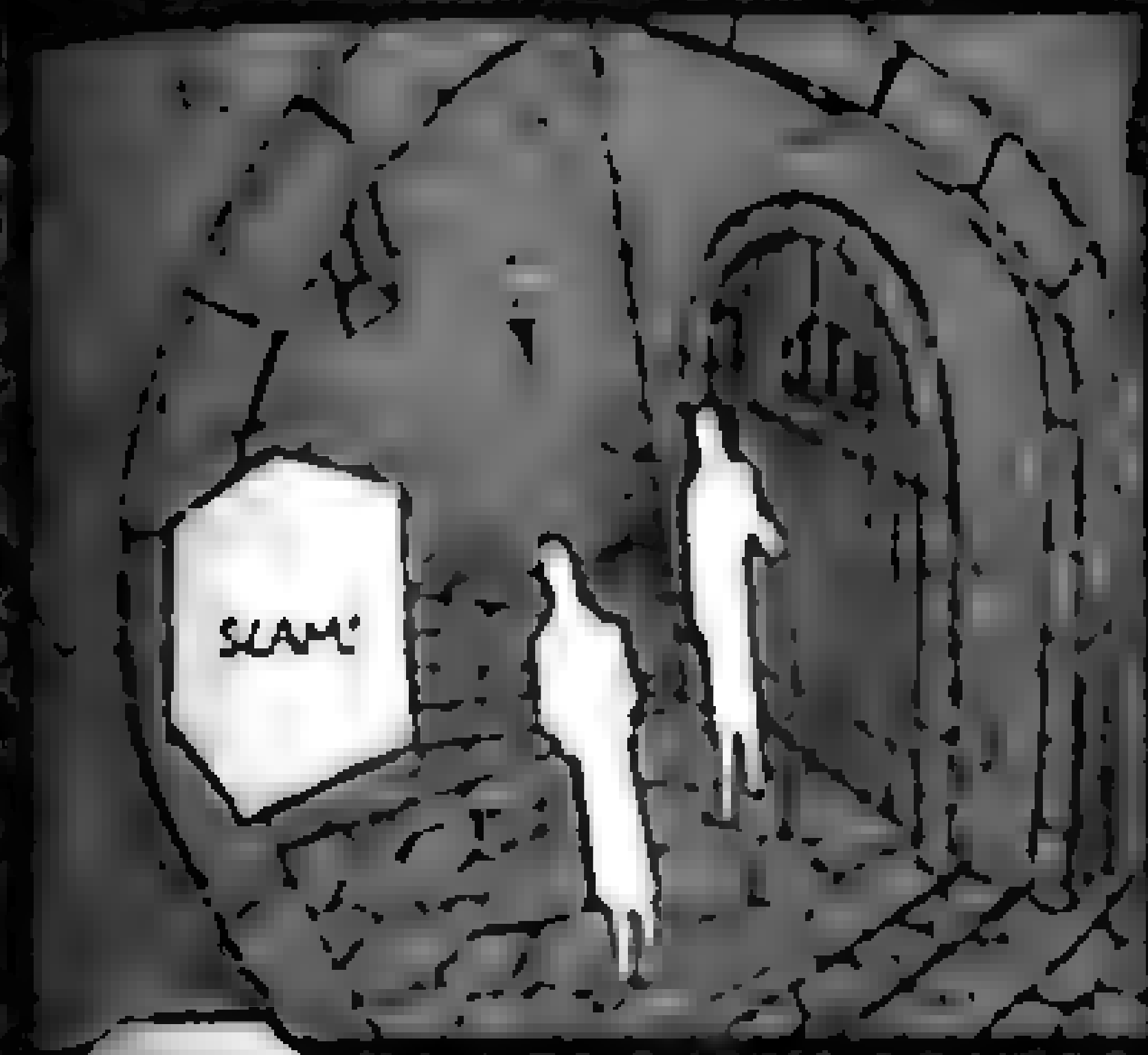
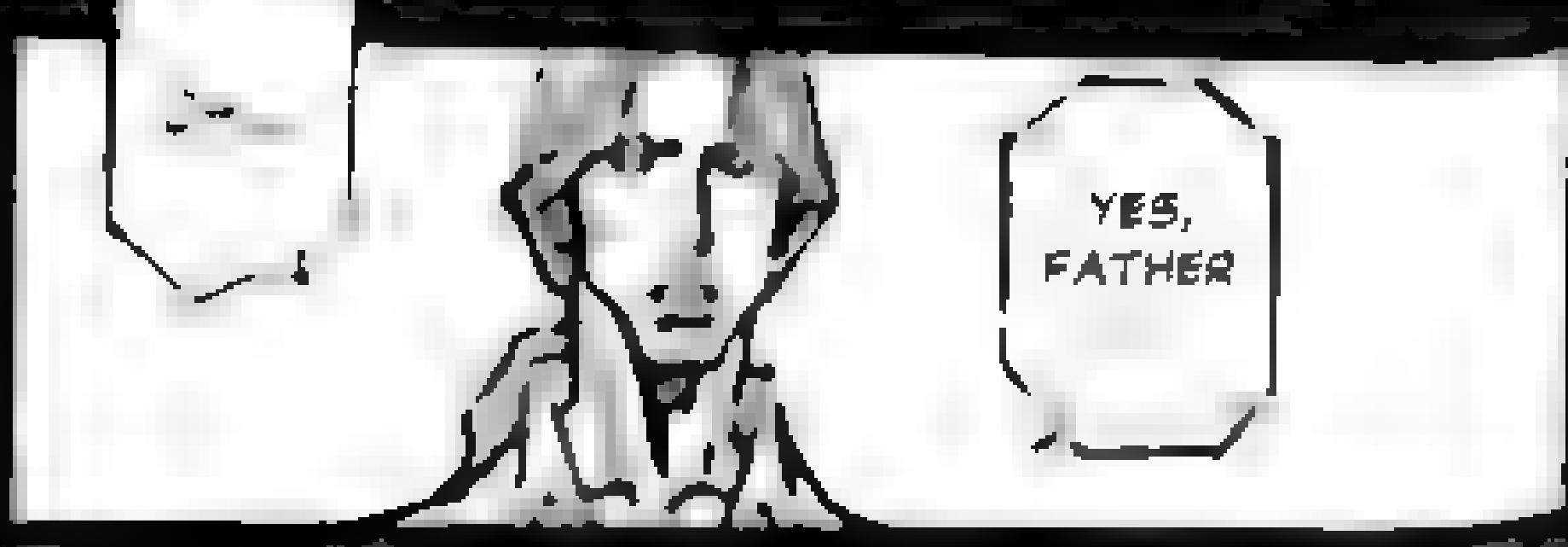
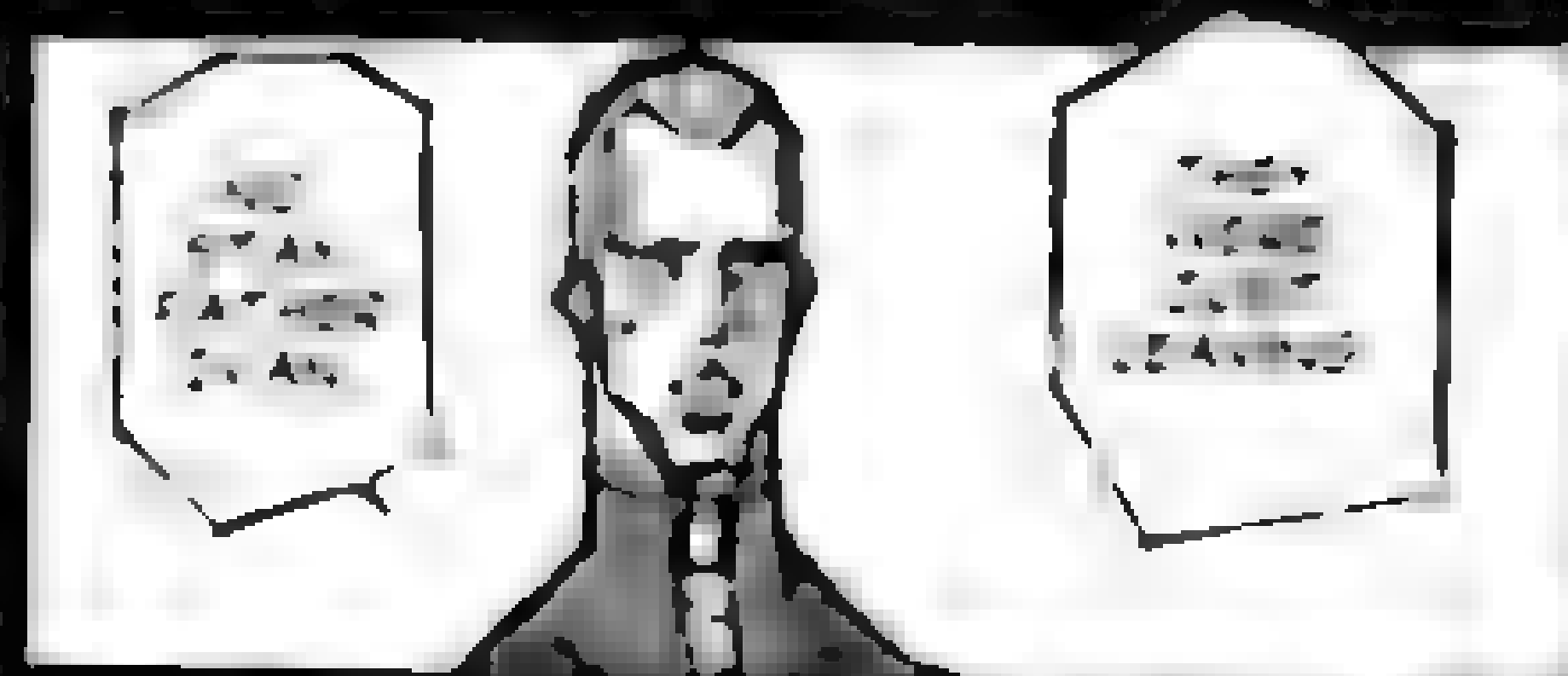
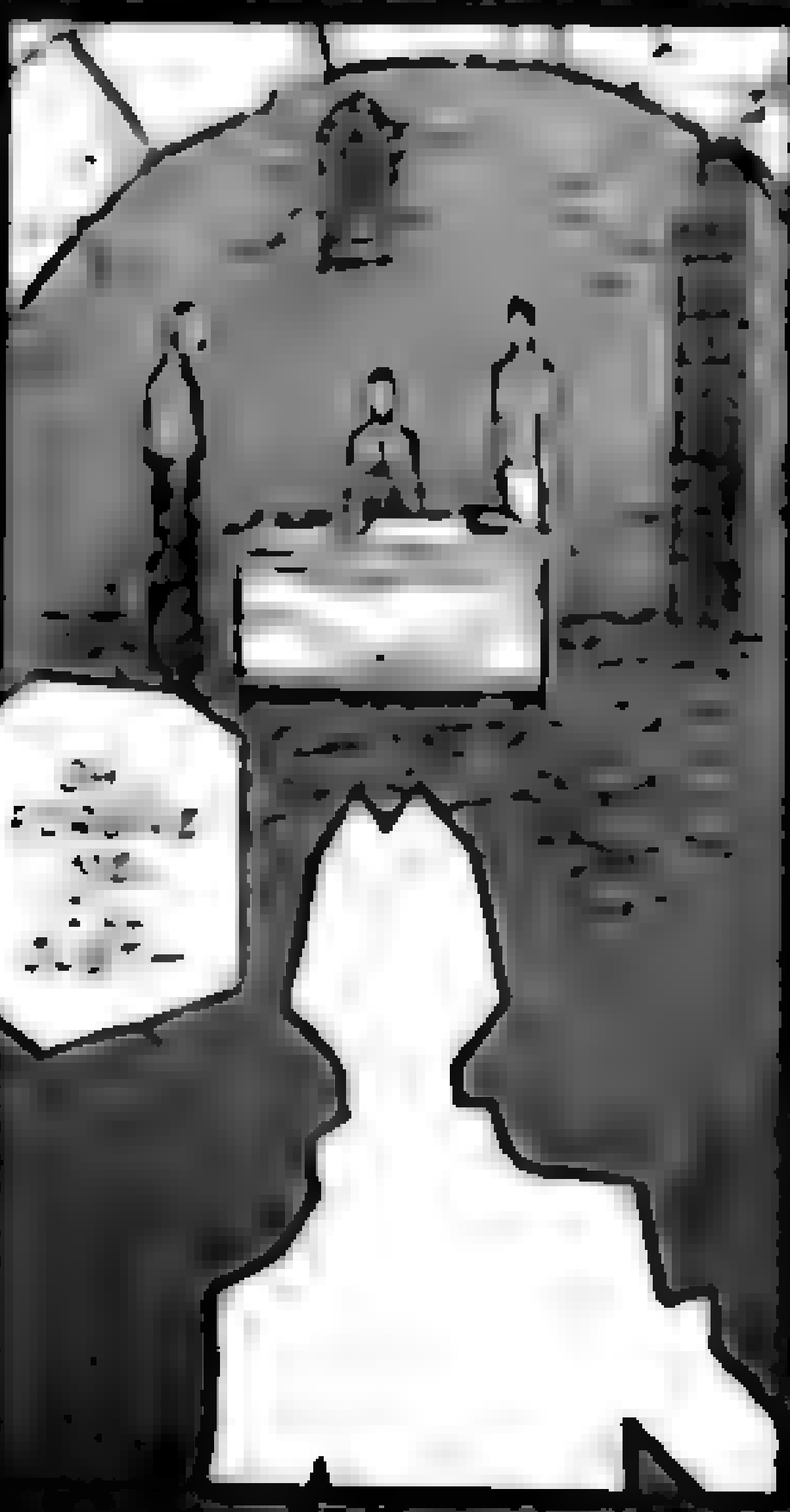
THAT...

DO NOT
AWAKE US
FROM OUR
CURSED
REST!!!



THAT'S





THE FIRST
HUMAN
TO DO
SO



...HE FIRST
HAD TO
SACRIFICE
HIS MORTAL
BODY

THE FIRST
HUMAN
TO DO
SO



THE FIRST
HUMAN
TO DO
SO



THE FIRST
HUMAN
TO DO
SO



THE FIRST
HUMAN
TO DO
SO



HE
BOUND
HIS SOUL
WITH AN
IMMORTAL
BODY

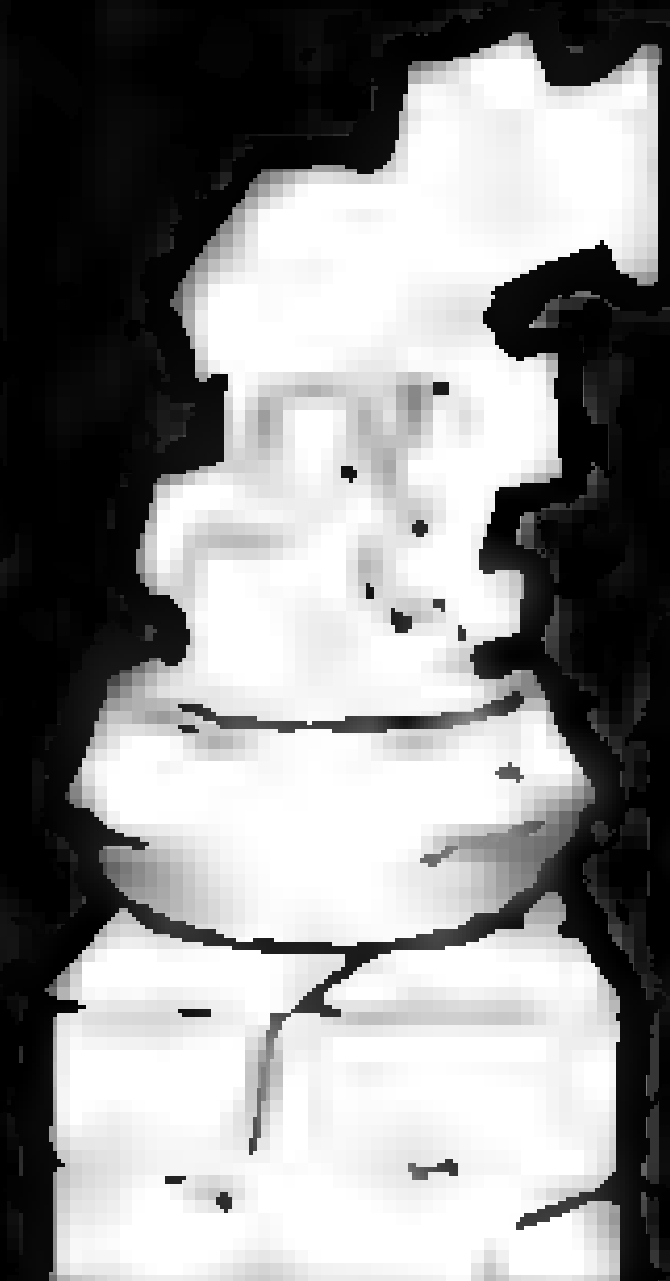
HE
PICKED
HIMSELF
TO BE THE
FINAL KEY TO
SEAL AWAY
TEMOZARELA
FOREVER...



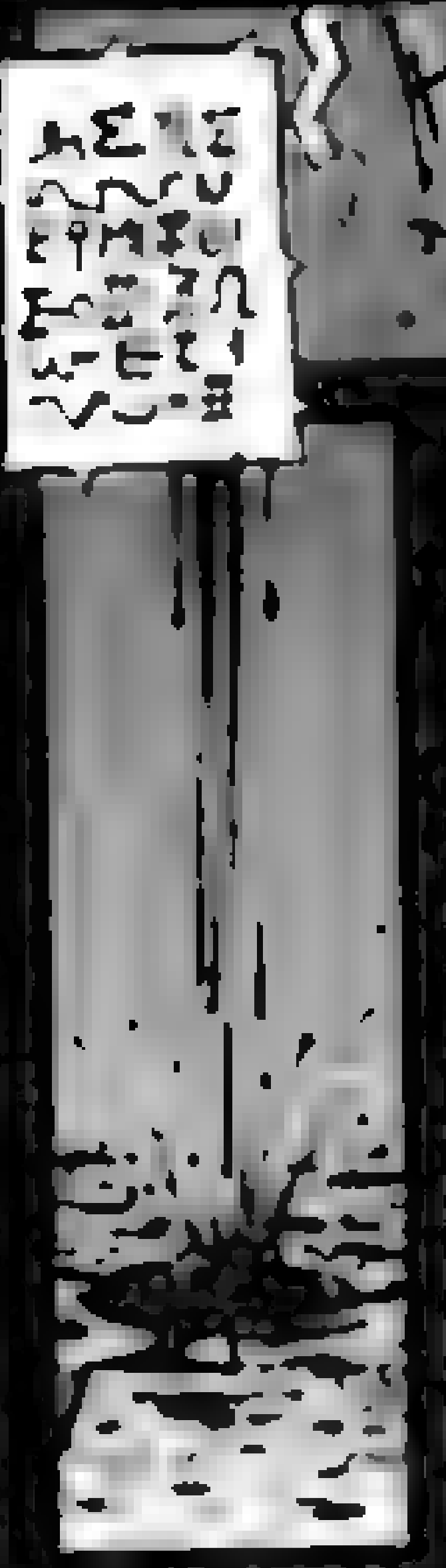
THE FIRST
HUMAN
TO DO
SO



THE FIRST
HUMAN
TO DO
SO



THE FIRST
HUMAN
TO DO
SO



THE FIRST
HUMAN
TO DO
SO



THE FIRST
HUMAN
TO DO
SO



THE HUMAN
CALLED
"BETHEAL
GAVARRE"
CEASED TO
EXIST.



HE
BECAME THE
DEVIL, BELIAL.
THAT'S HOW
HE'S KEPT
TEMOZARELA
IN CHECK FOR
THE PAST 500
YEARS!



HMMM
...

THAT'S A
FASCINATING
THEORY

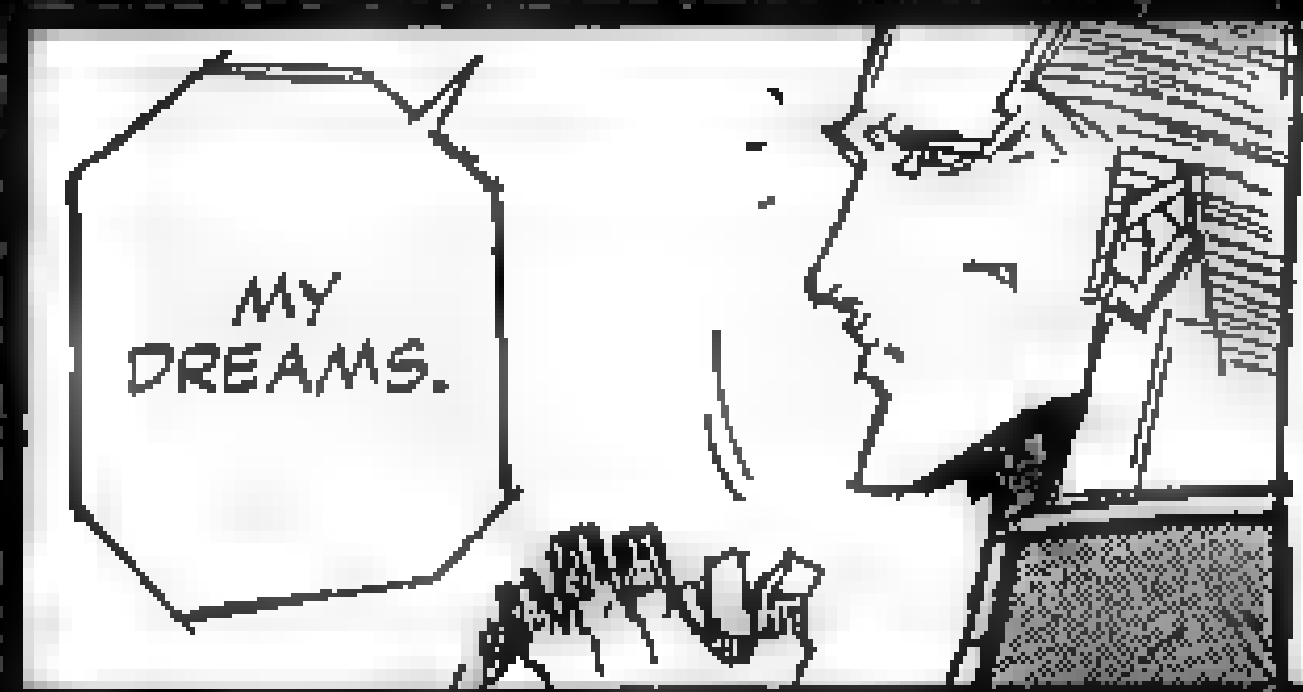


BUT...



...DO YOU
HAVE ANY
EVIDENCE?

...



MY
DREAMS.



I KNOW
THAT
SOUNDS
FOOLISH
...

...BUT
I'VE SEEN
HIM IN MY
DREAMS.

...



ENOUGH,
FATHER
IVAN!



WE MIGHT BE SCHOLARS, BUT BEFORE THAT...

...WE ARE GOD'S DISCIPLES WHO TOOK AN OATH OF FAITH.

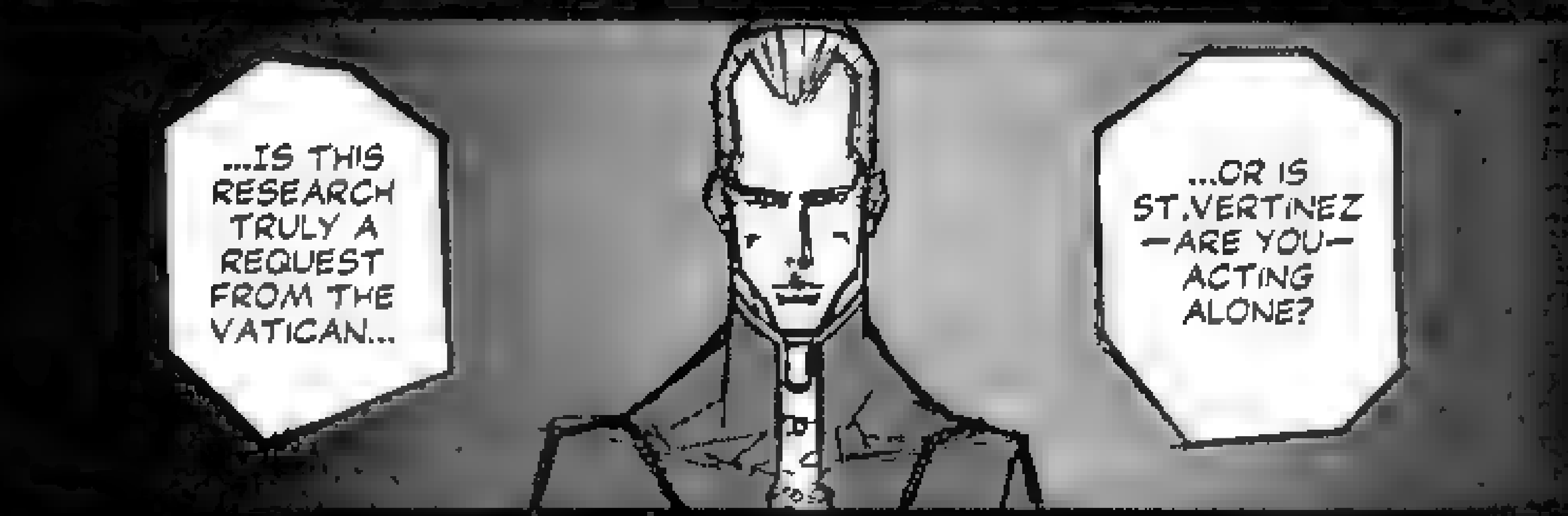
THIS IS GOING TOO FAR!



PROFESSOR MARTIN...

FATHER PIETRO.

TELL US...



...IS THIS RESEARCH TRULY A REQUEST FROM THE VATICAN...

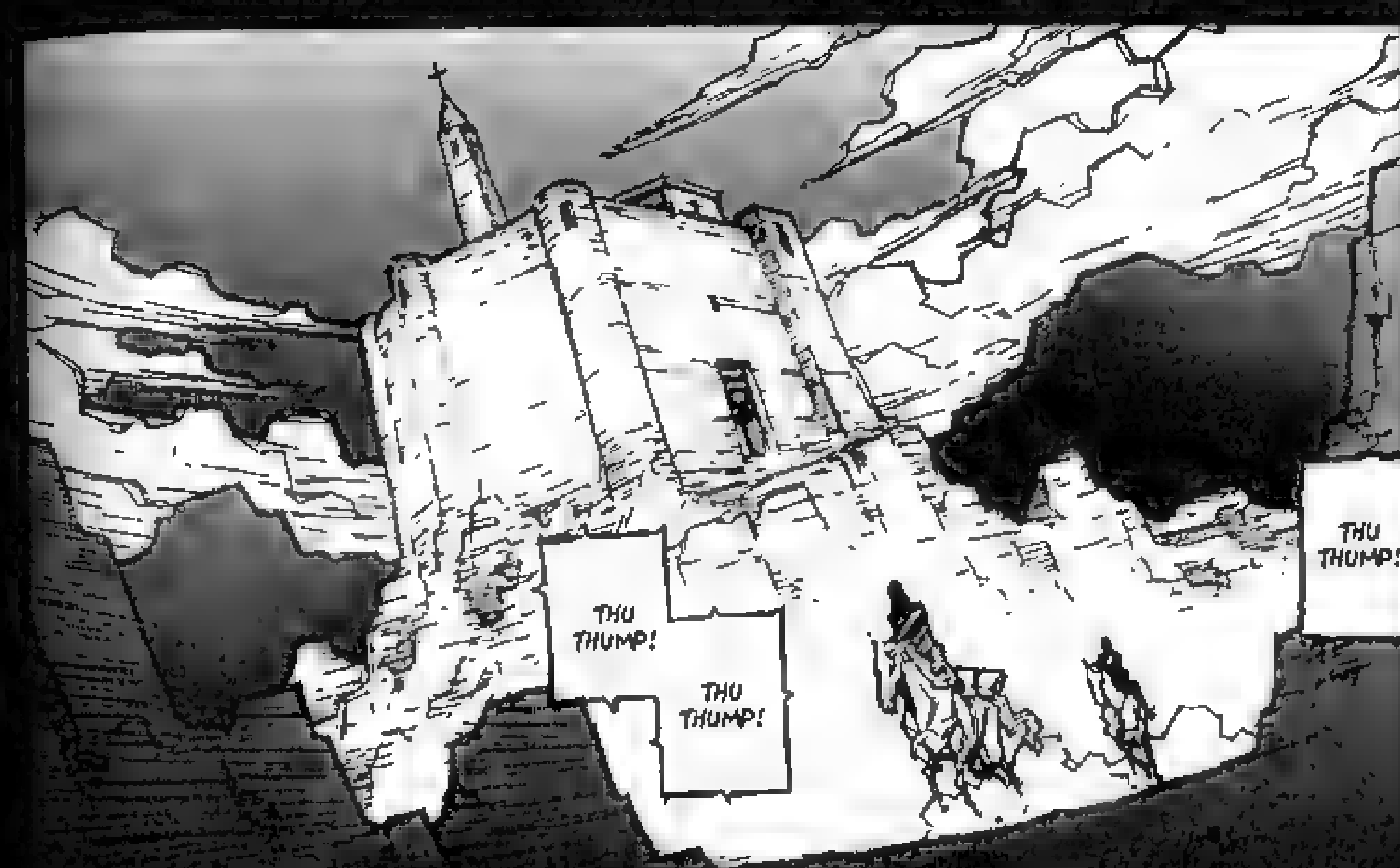
...OR IS ST. VERTINEZ - ARE YOU - ACTING ALONE?



!



NEIGHHH!



THU THUMP!

THU THUMP!

THU THUMP!

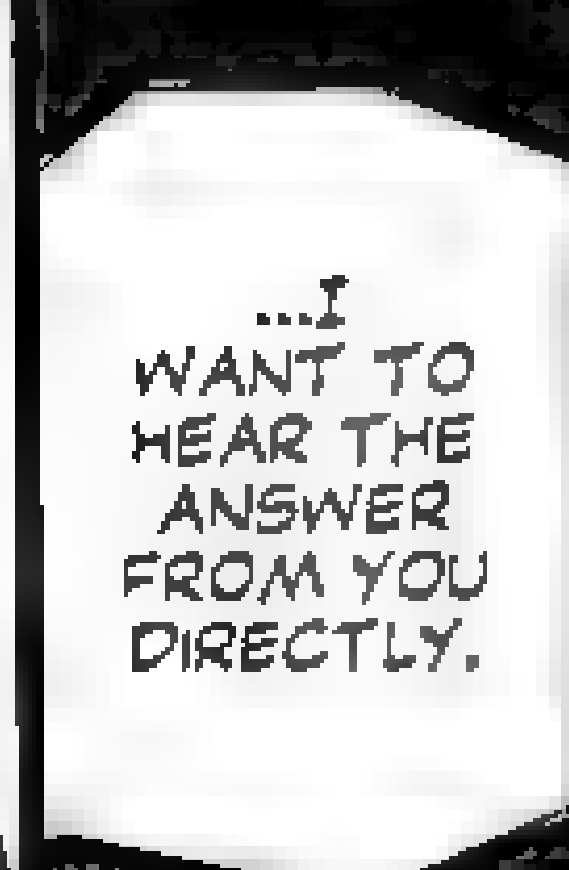


JACK AND RICHARD HAVE LEFT FOR THE CITY...

...WHERE THEY CAN GET IN TOUCH WITH THE VATICAN TO DECIPHER THE TRUTH.



BUT BEFORE THAT...



...I WANT TO HEAR THE ANSWER FROM YOU DIRECTLY.



WHAT IS
YOUR REAL
REASON BEHIND
UNCOVERING...

...THE
SECRETS
OF THE
DOMAS
PORADA?!!



PRIEST

SIRHC-2004.01.26

SYNOPSIS:

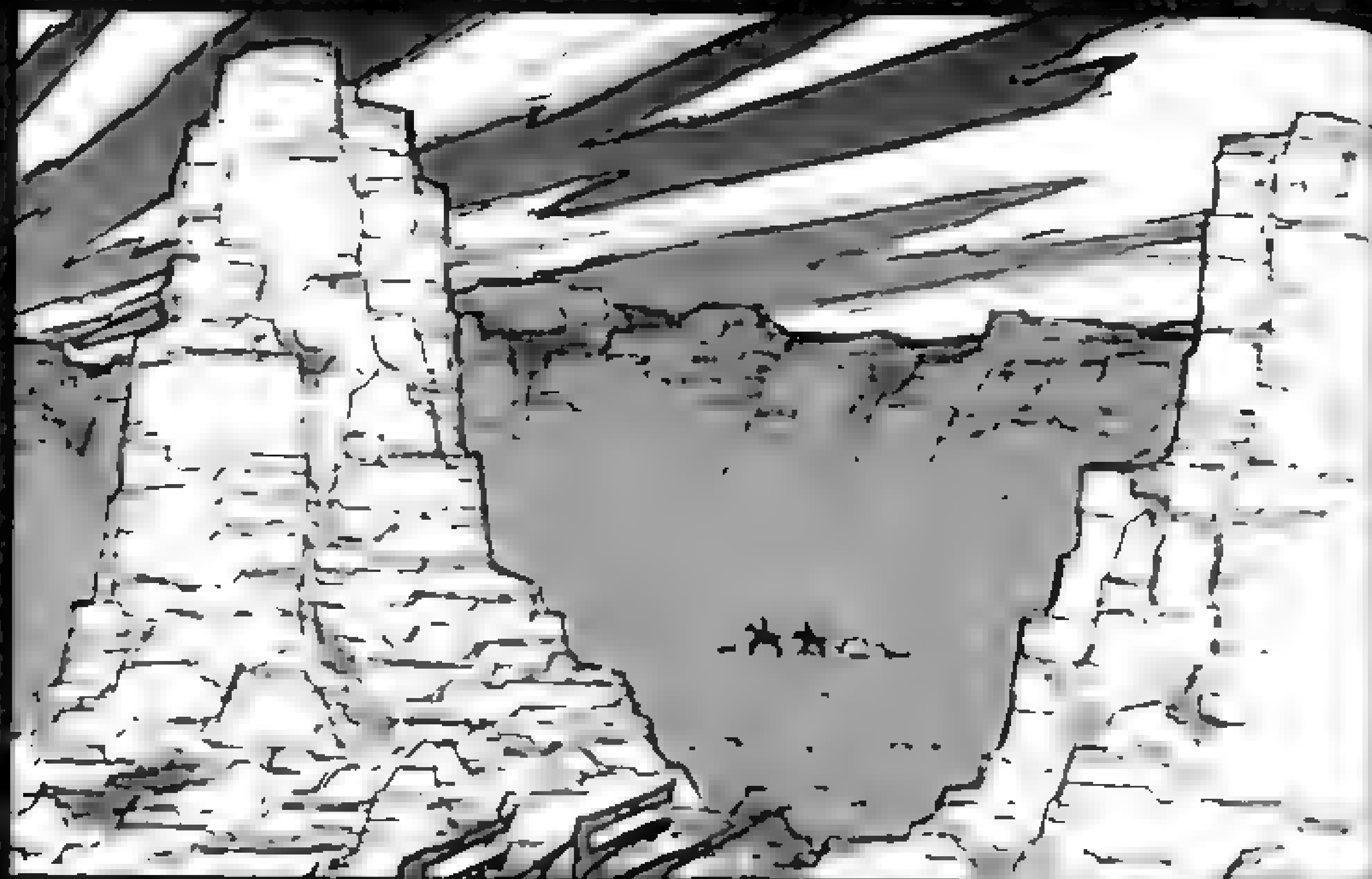
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ENJOY!!!!



YOU
ALSO
ARE
PROFESSOR.



ST. VERTINEZ
HAS AUTHORITY
TO WORK
INDEPENDENTLY
IN THE
CRSS

BUT HE
WOULD
NEVER
CONDUCT
EXTENSIVE
RESEARCH

WITHOUT
THE
BLESSING
OF THE
VATICAN.



WE'LL
KNOW
THAT FOR
SURE WHEN
JACK AND
RICHARD

GET IN
CONTACT
WITH THE
VAT CAN.



WHAT
FATHER
SLAY
HAS
UNCOVERED

IS
REASON
ENOUGH TO
CONTACT
WITH THE
VAT CAN
BEFORE
PUSHING
FORWARD



NOW I
SUGGEST
WE PUT
FURTHER
RESEARCH
ON HOLD
UNTIL OUR
BROTHERS
RETURN.

....!

BUT,
ANTONIO!

WE
CAN'T
STOP
NOW!!

WE'RE SO
CLOSE TO
UNCOVERING
THE TRUTH!

IVAN!

PROFESSOR
MARTIN IS
RIGHT.

YOUR
RESEARCH
IS
BORDERING
ON HERESY.
IT WOULD
BE WISE
TO GET THE
VATICAN'S
OPINION.

I THINK
IT'S BEST
IF WE
HALTED THE
RESEARCH
FOR NOW.

FATHER
IVAN...

YE...

YES
FATHER.

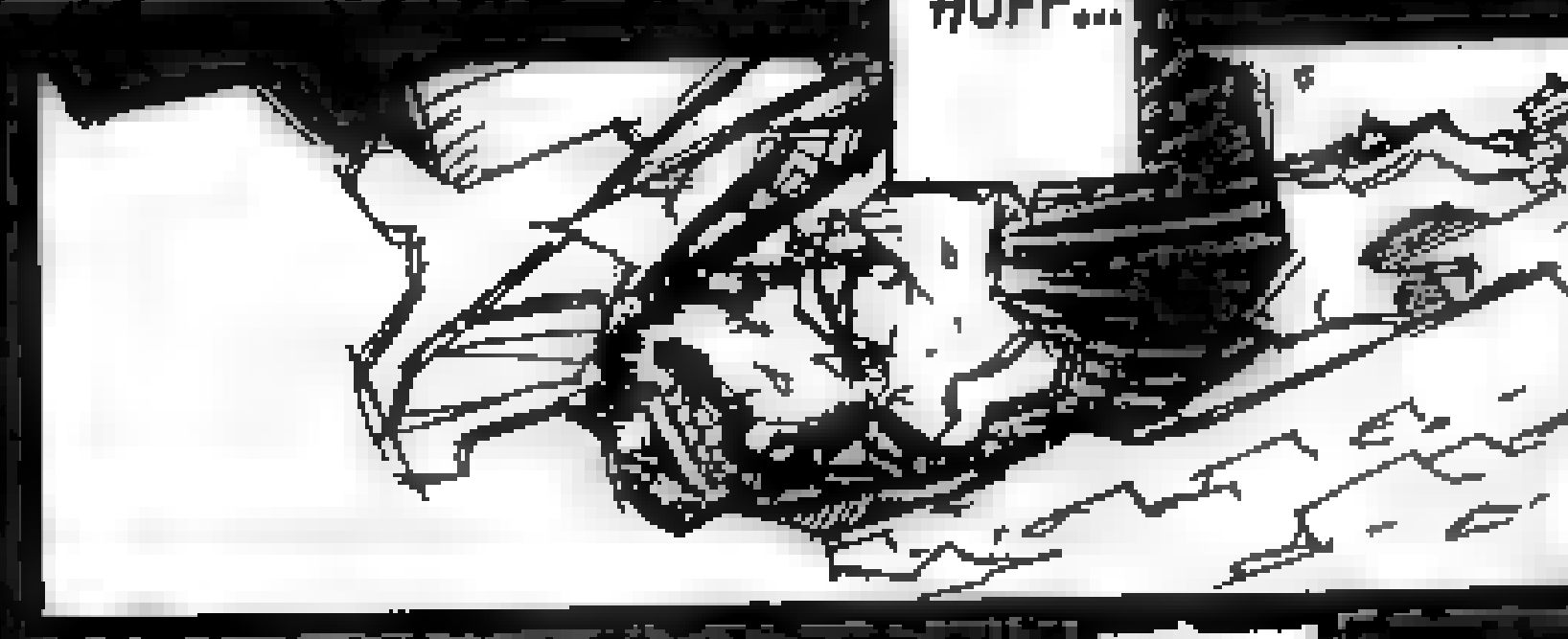
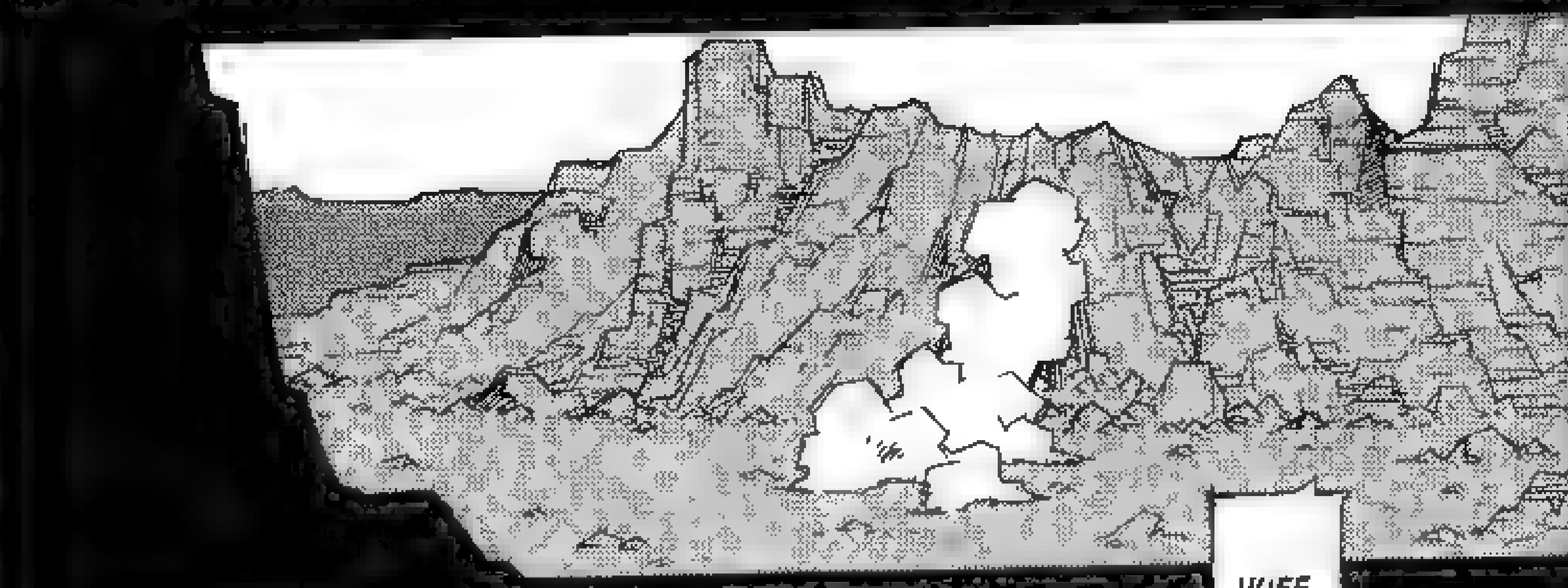
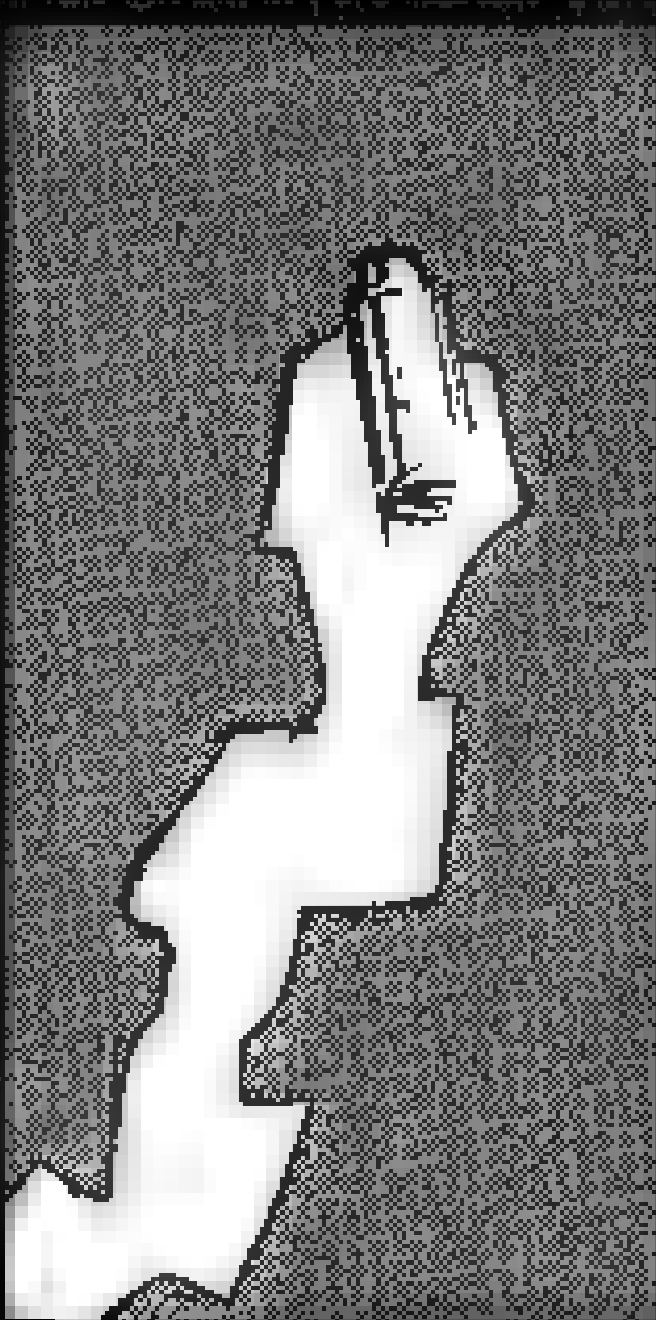
...I HOPE
YOU
UNDER-
STAND.

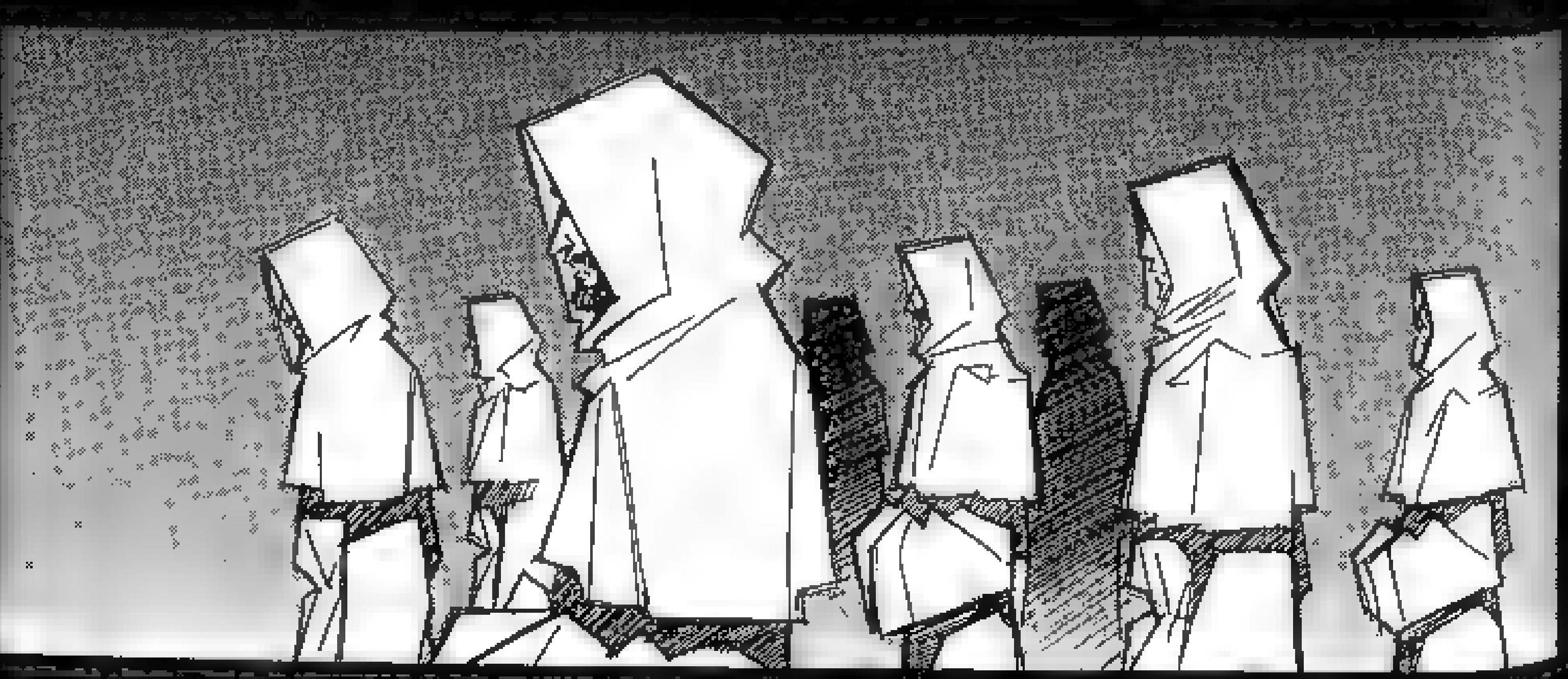
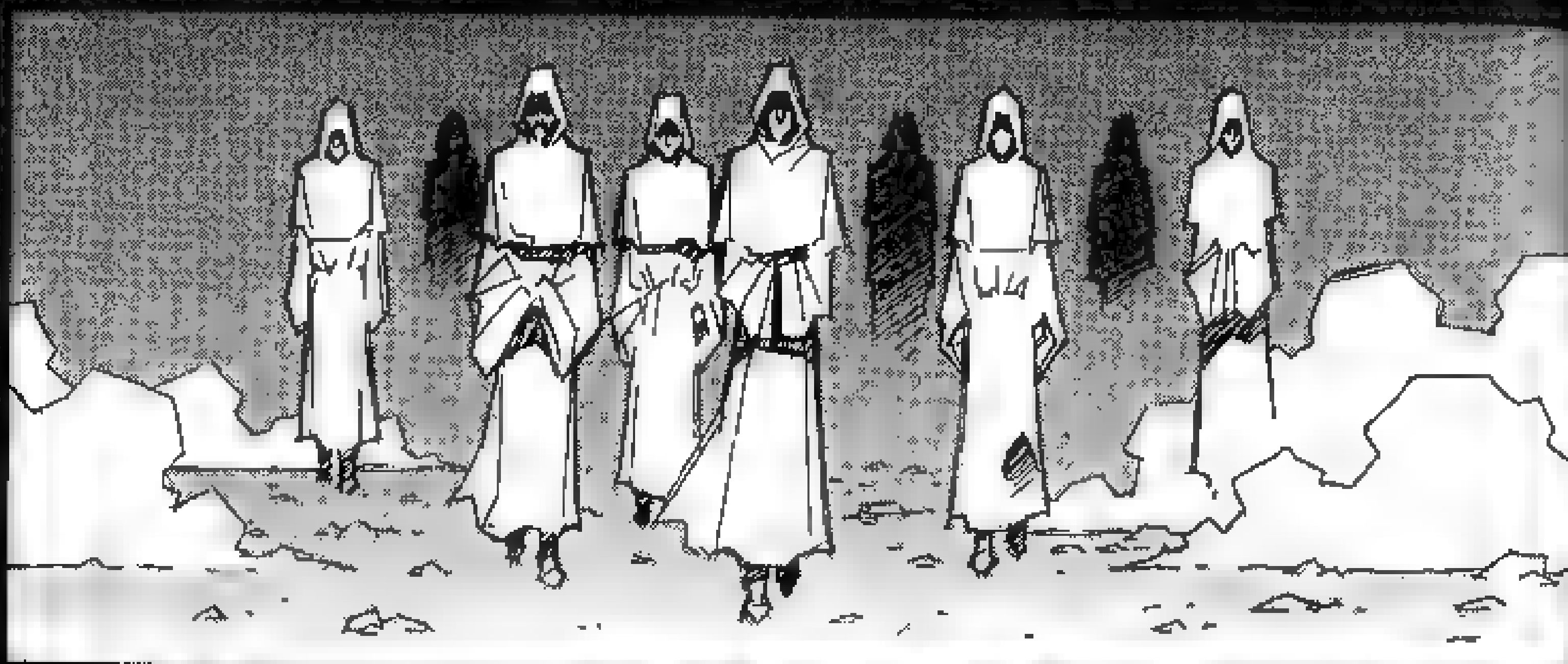
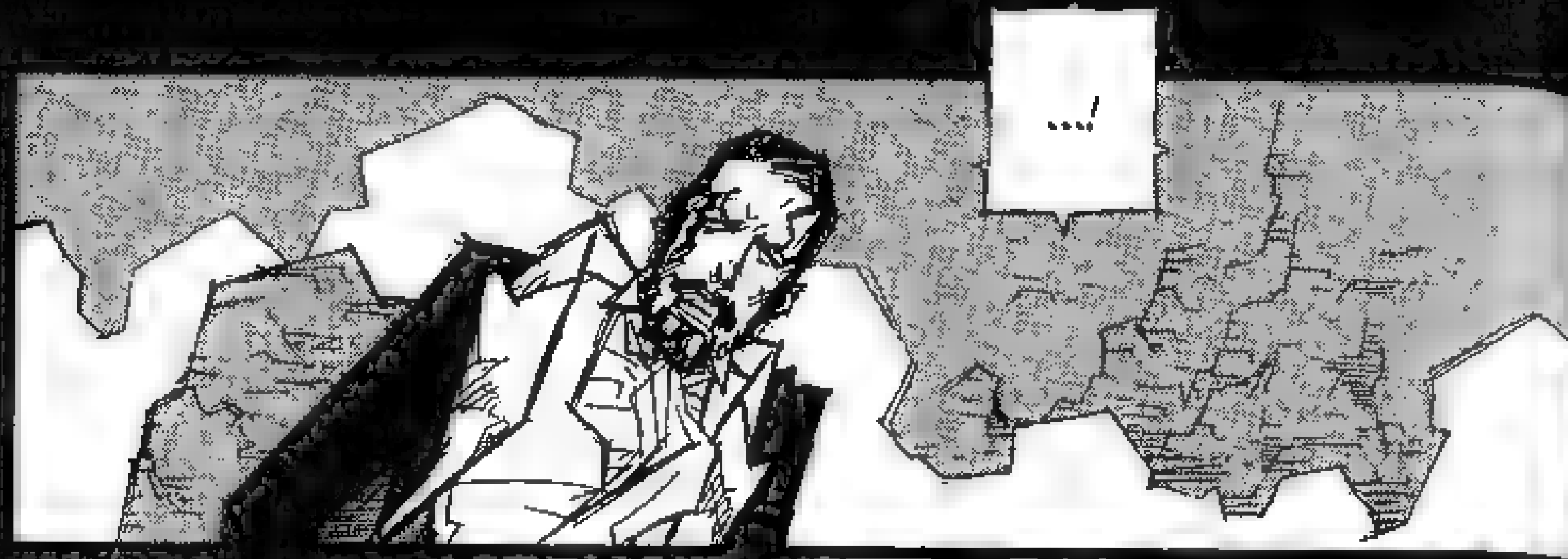
POW!!

!!

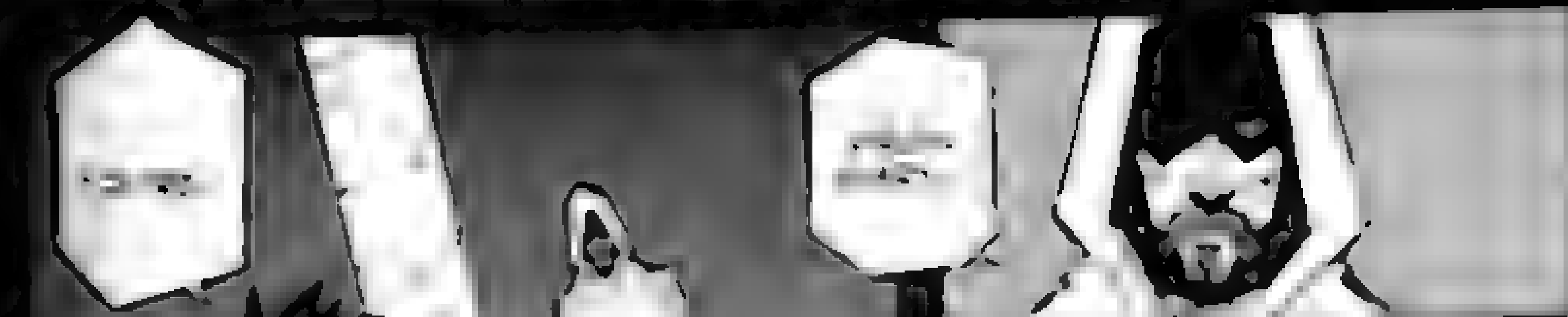
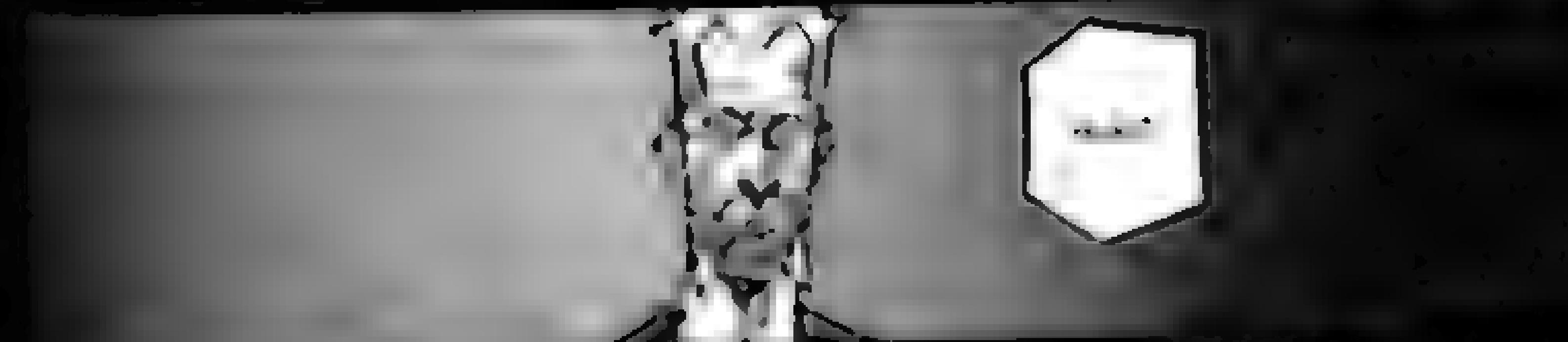
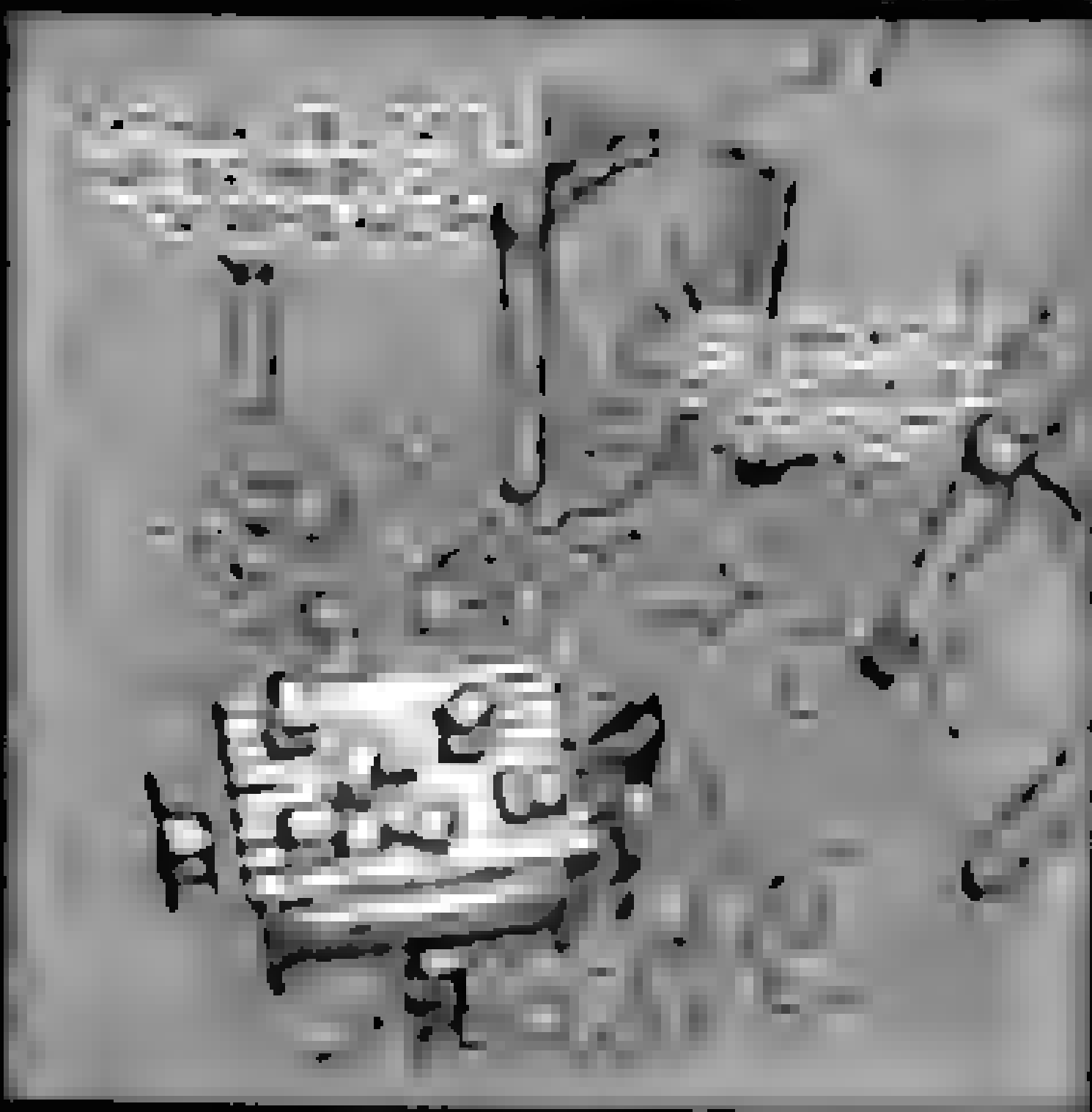
JACK!!

OH
MY...





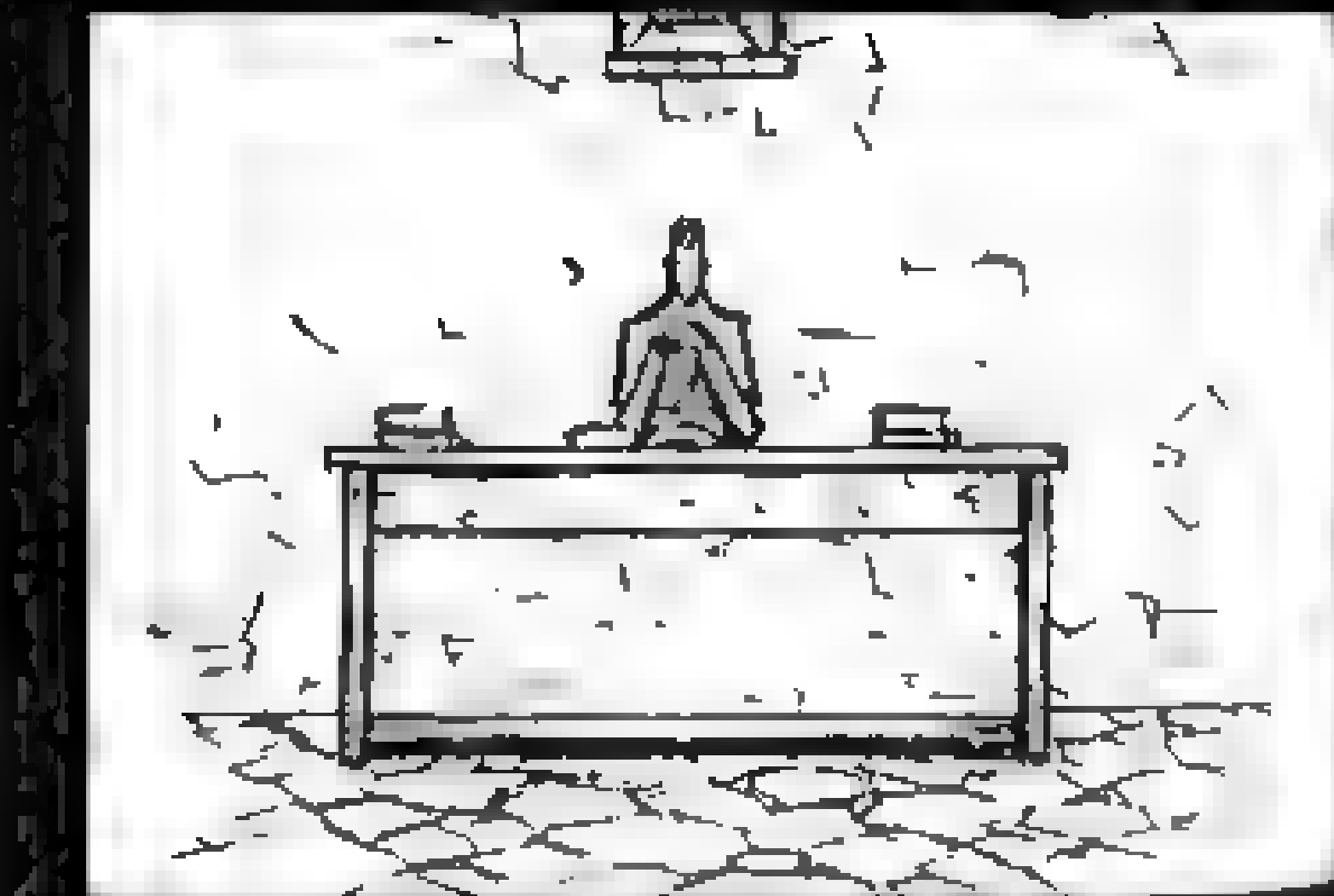
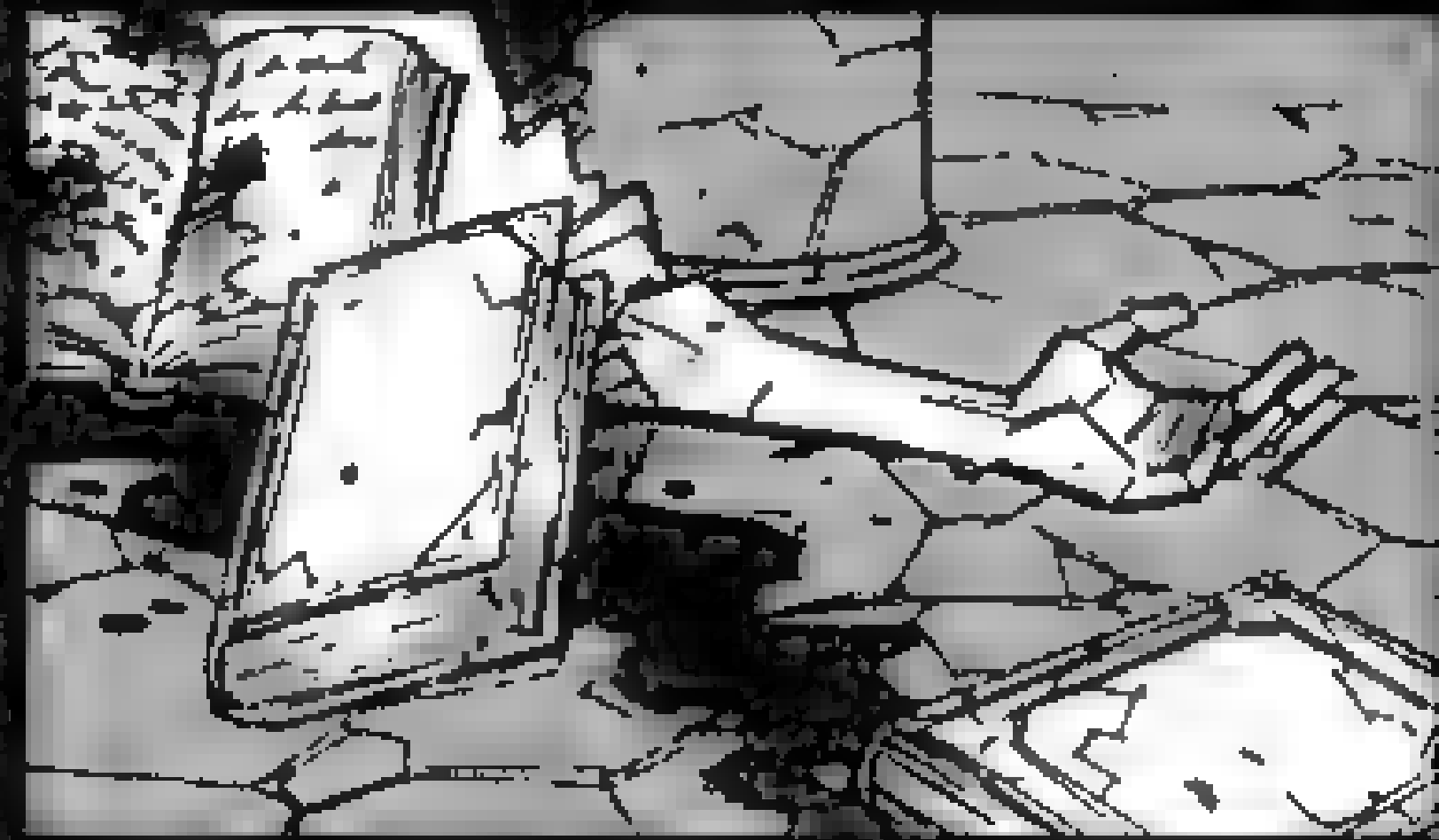




FORGIVE
ME
FOR THE
SIN I'M
ABOUT TO



VIRGIN
MARY...
PLEASE
FORGIVE
MY SINS!



I'M
AFRAID
FATHER
CLEMENS
AND
FATHER
PORTER
...

...HAVE
SENT WORD
THAT THEY
ARE QUITTING
THE
INVESTIGATION.

THAT...

THAT
CAN'T
BE...!

I AM
ALSO
SAD TO
REPORT
...

...THAT
PROFESSOR
MARTIN
HAS DECDED
TO LEAVE
STONETALE
ABBAY, AS
WELL.

IT
SEEMS
THEY
DID NOT
AGREE
...

...WITH
THE
VATICAN'S
DECISION
...

BUT
WITHOUT
THEM...

I CAN'T
DO THIS
ALONE,
FATHER...

NO!

THEY
WERE ONLY
HOLDING YOU
BACK. I'M
CONFIDENT
YOU CAN
COMPLETE
THE
RESEARCH.

...TO
COMPLETE
THE
RESEARCH.

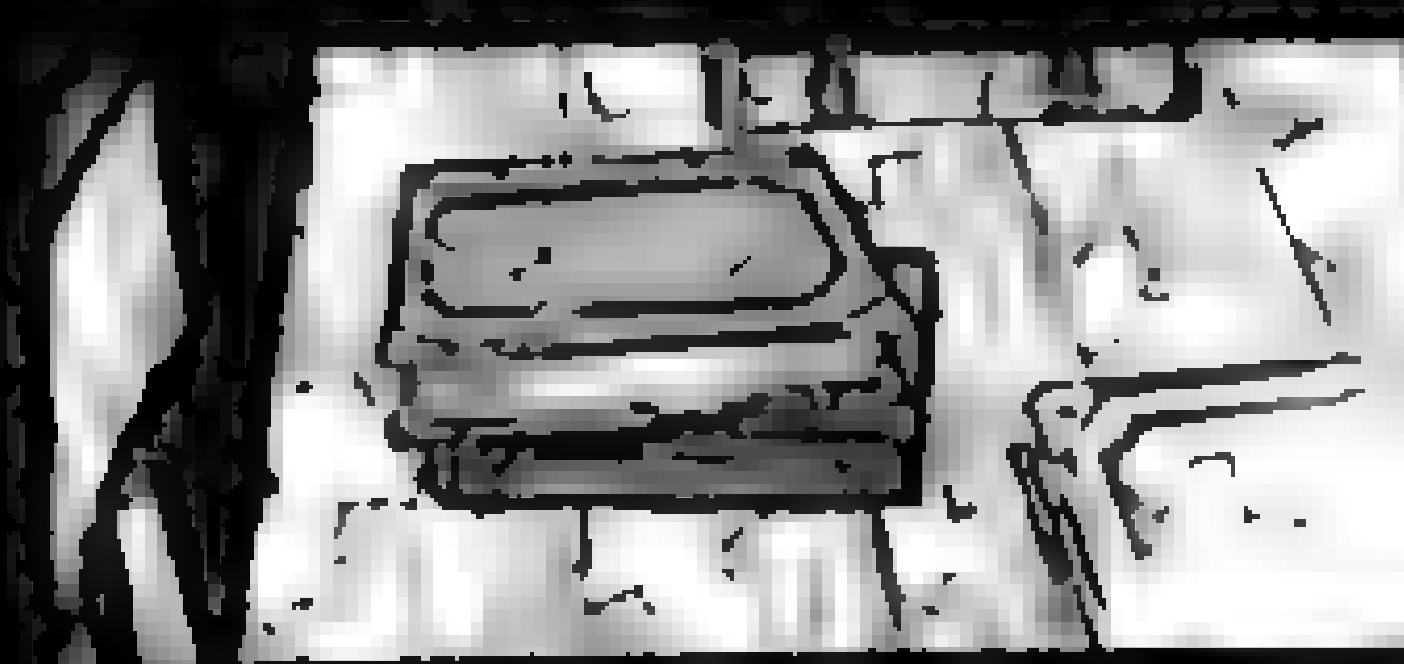


BE CAREFUL OF FATHER PIESTRO.



WHEN I LOOK INTO HIS EYES...

IT'S NOT THE OLD RAUL I ONCE KNEW.

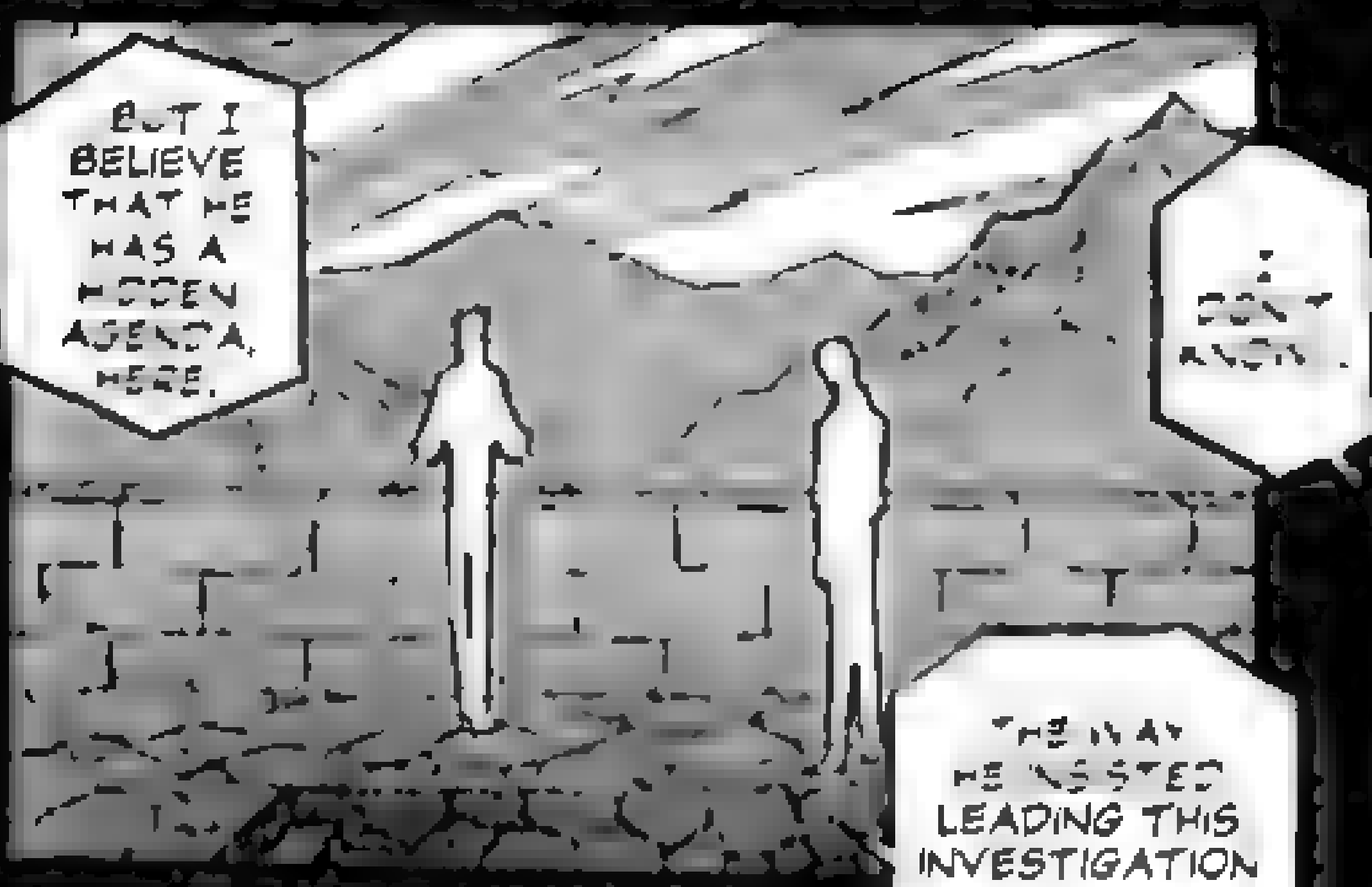


FUP!

FUP!



I KNOW I HAVE NO EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT IT...



BUT I BELIEVE THAT HE HAS A HIDDEN AGENDA, HERE.

I DON'T KNOW...

THE WAY HE INSISTED LEADING THIS INVESTIGATION ...



JUST BE CAREFUL, EVAN.



WHAT'S THIS?

PROFESSOR MARTIN LEFT ALL OF HIS NOTES

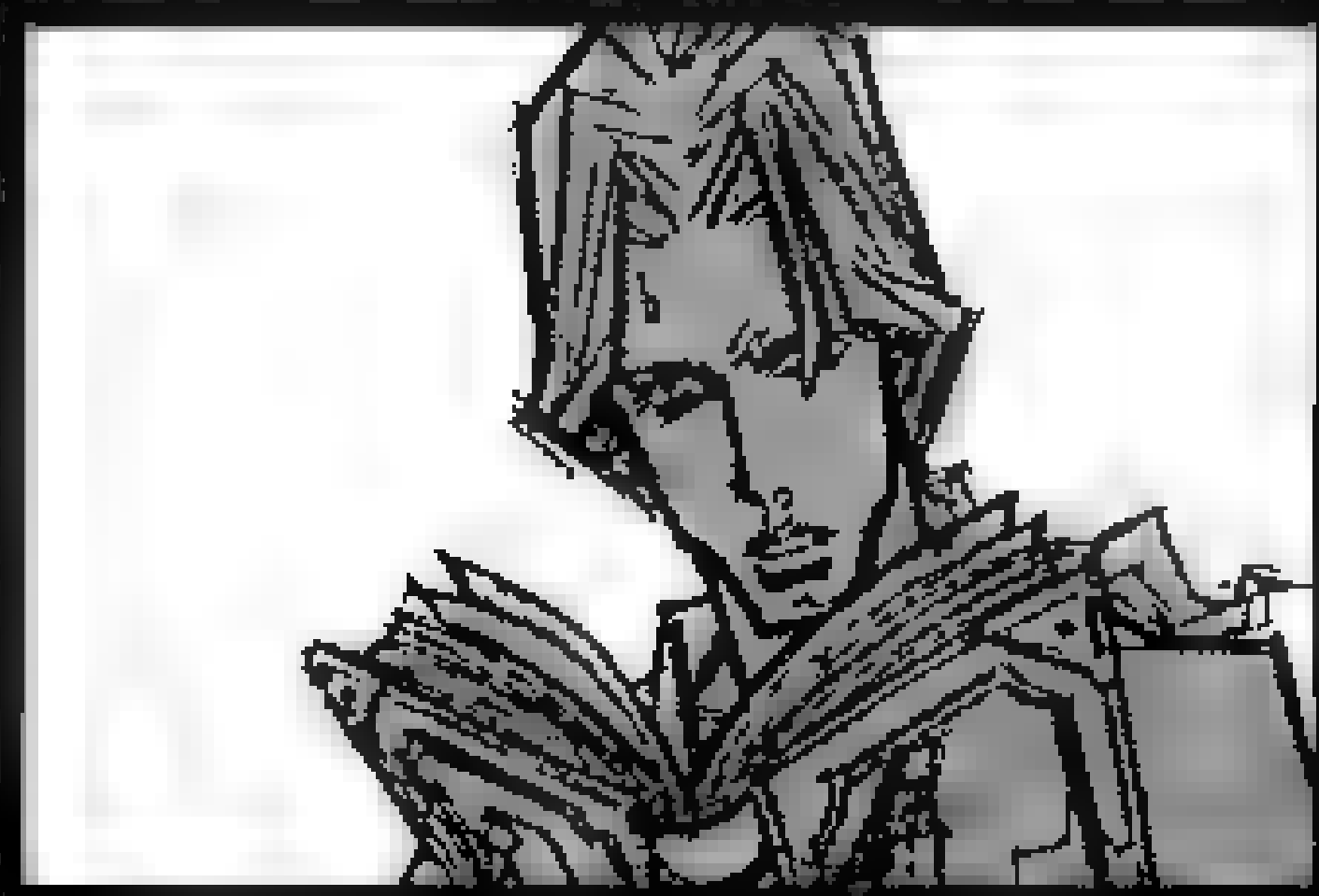


!



FUP!

FUP!



BLOOD?



I'VE
ALREADY
TOLD YOU
WHAT
HAPPENED
TO THEM.



WHAT'S
GOING
ON?



STOMP
STOMP

IT
DOESN'T
MAKE
SENSE
THAT
PROFESSOR
MARTIN
WOULD
LEAVE
LIKE
THAT!
HE
NEVER
SAID
ANYTHING
ABOUT
IT—NO
GOODBYE.



HE
DIDN'T
EVEN
TAKE
ANY
OF
THIS
THINGS!



SLAM!



!

FATHER
IVAN!



I
DON'T
KNOW
WHY
YOU'RE
BEHAVING
THIS
WAY...



OH
MY...

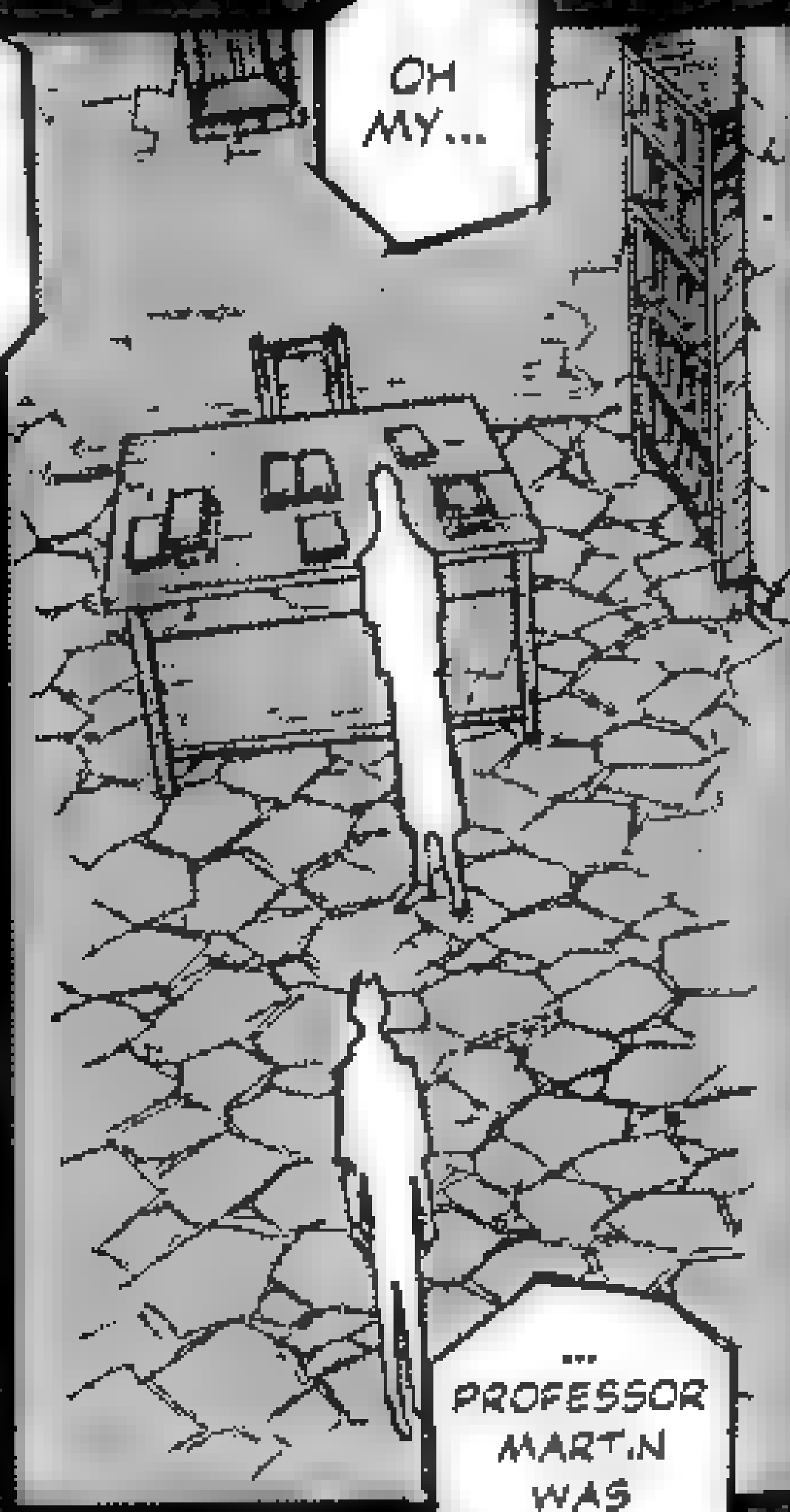
YOU
ARE...
...HIDING
SOMETHING
!

FATHER
PIESTRO!
PLEASE
BE
HONEST
WITH
ME!



WHAT
HAPPENED
TO
THE
THREE
PROFESSORS?

...BUT
THE
PROFESSORS
ARE
GONE!



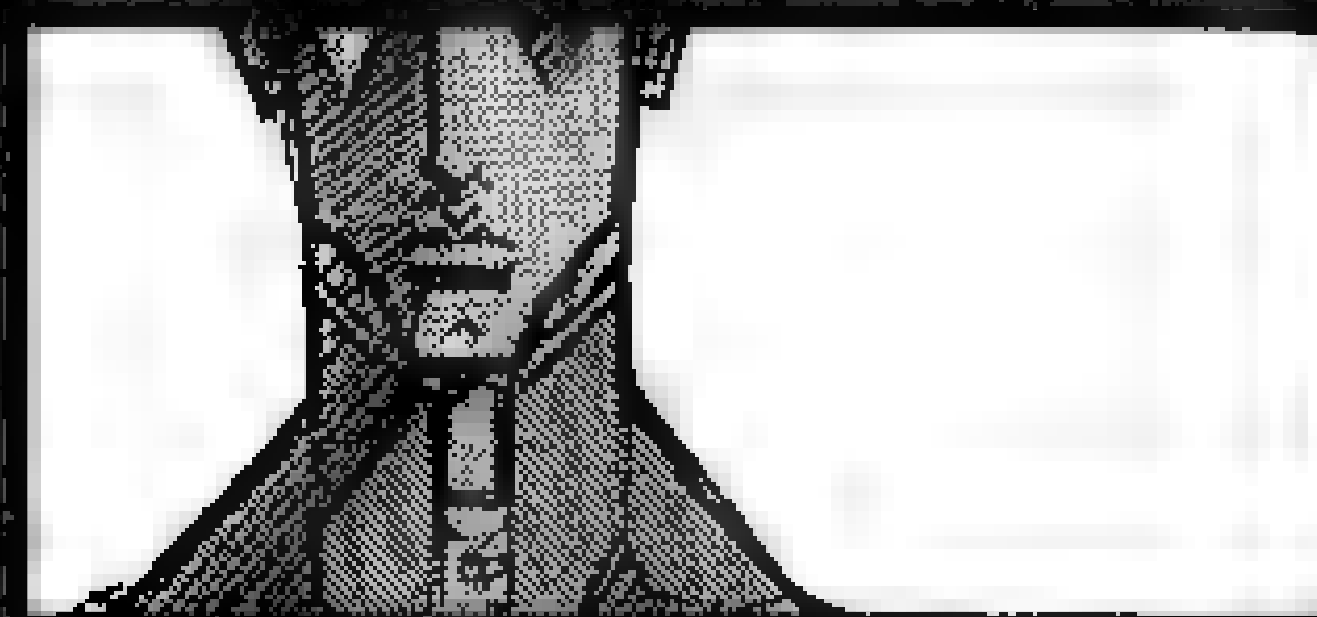
...
PROFESSOR
MARTIN
WAS
RIGHT.





IF THAT'S HOW IT'S GOING TO BE ...

...I'LL LOOK INTO IT ON MY OWN!



IVAN!



I KNOW YOU FEEL HURT, BUT YOU CAN'T LET THEIR BETRAYAL CLOUD YOUR MIND.

YOU CAN FINALLY COMPLETE YOUR RESEARCH AND OPEN THE DOMAS PORADA!

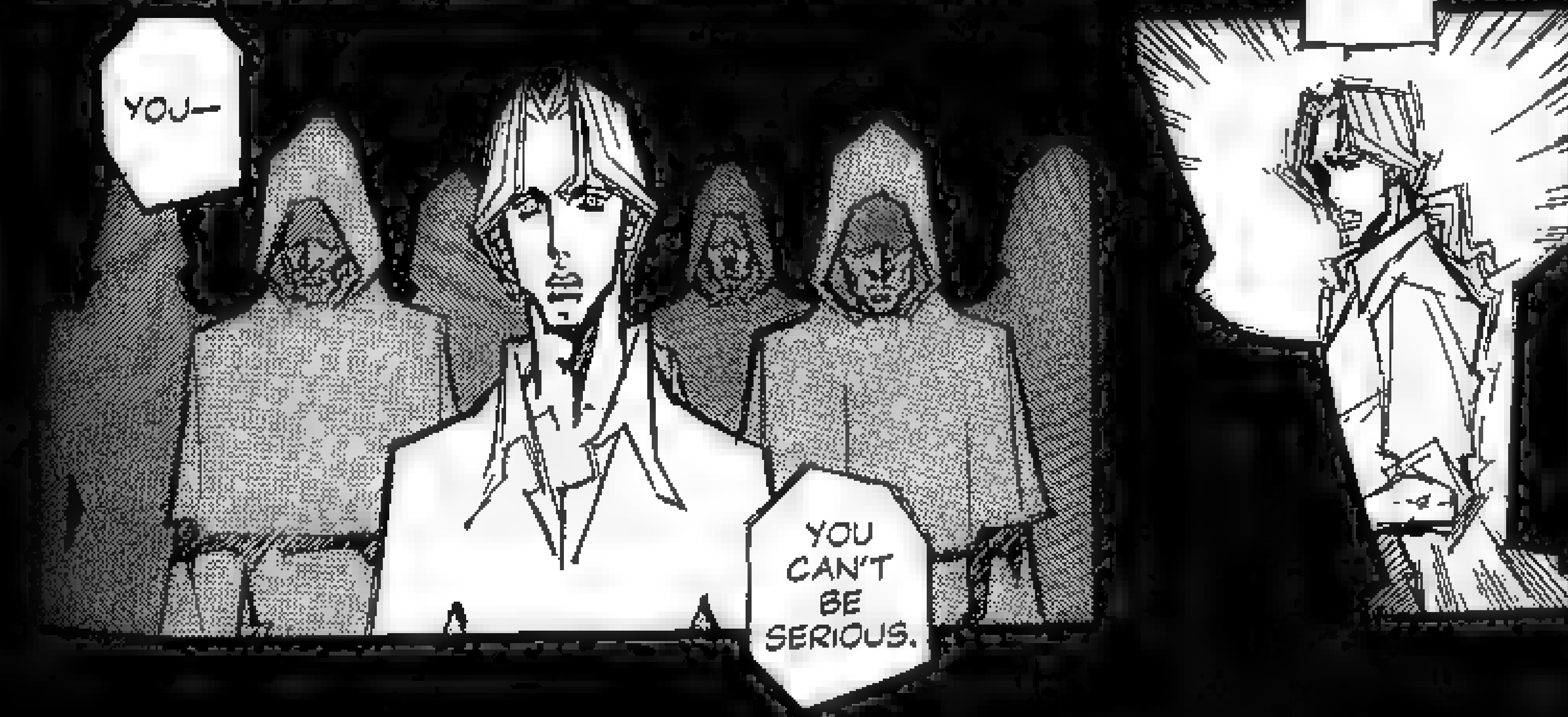


...



DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW ANOTHER FACE OF GOD?

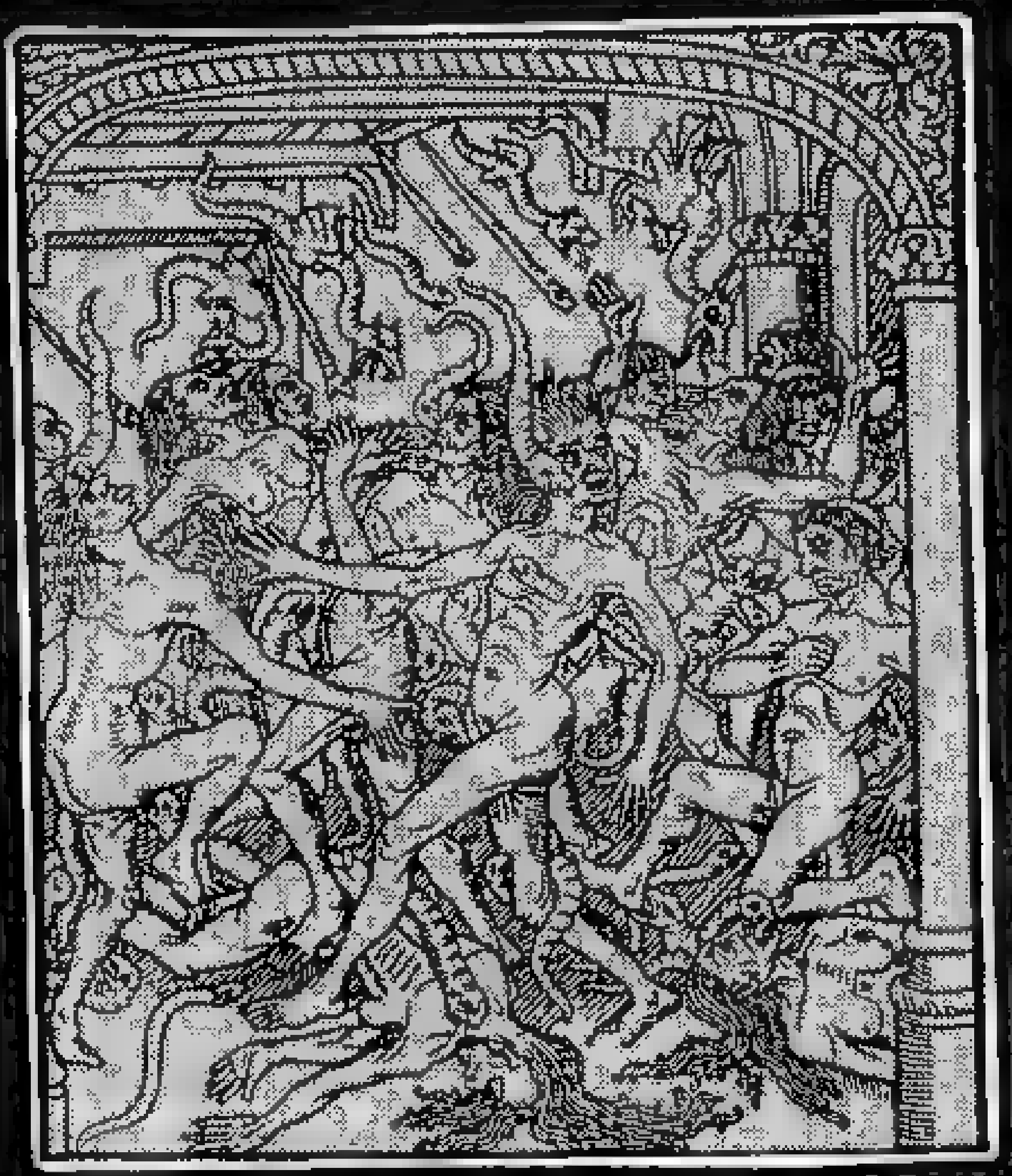
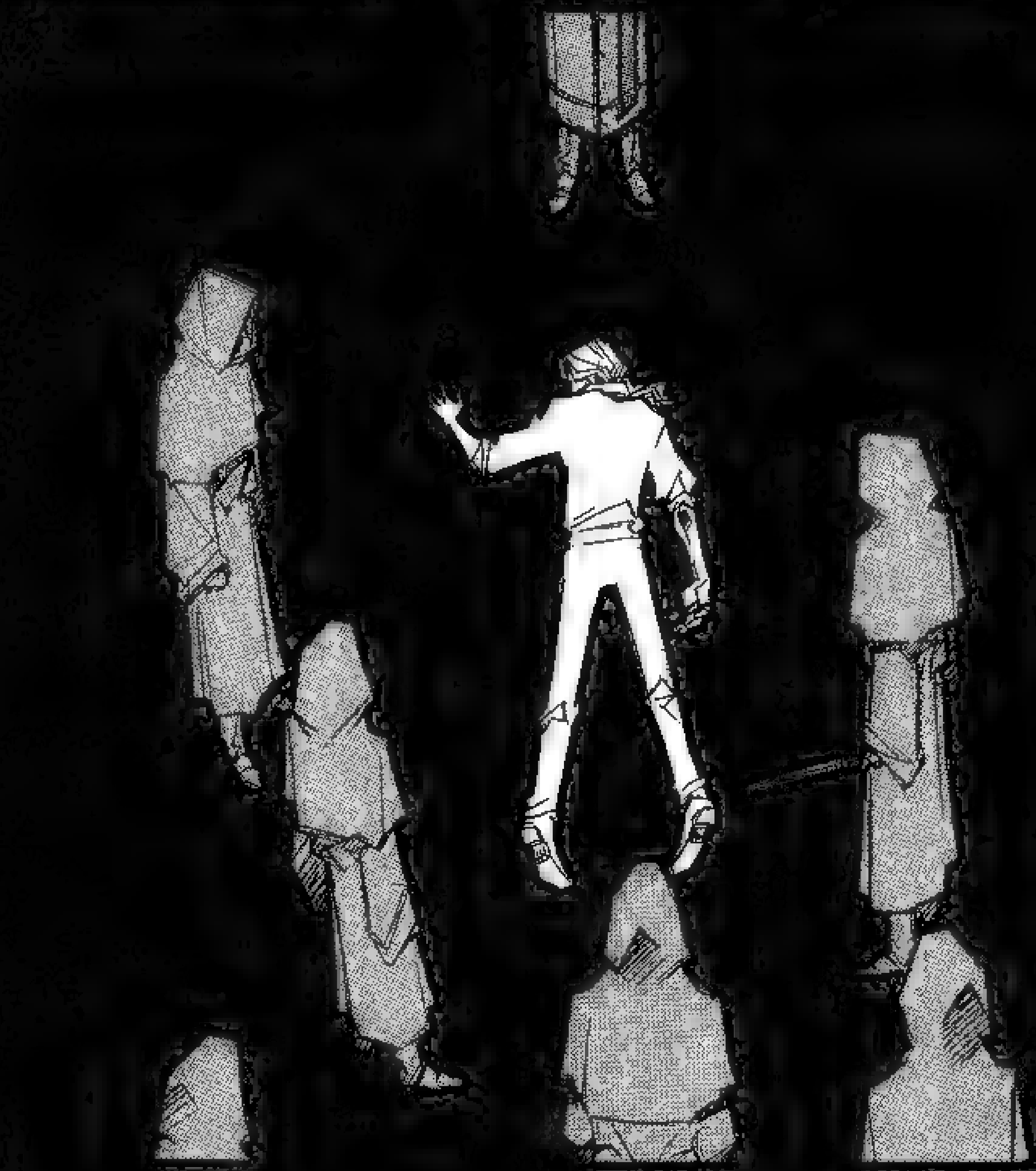
DON'T YOU WANT TO SEE HIM WITH YOUR OWN EYES?



YOU—

YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS.

!!



PRIEST

SIRHC-2004.01.26

SYNOPSIS:

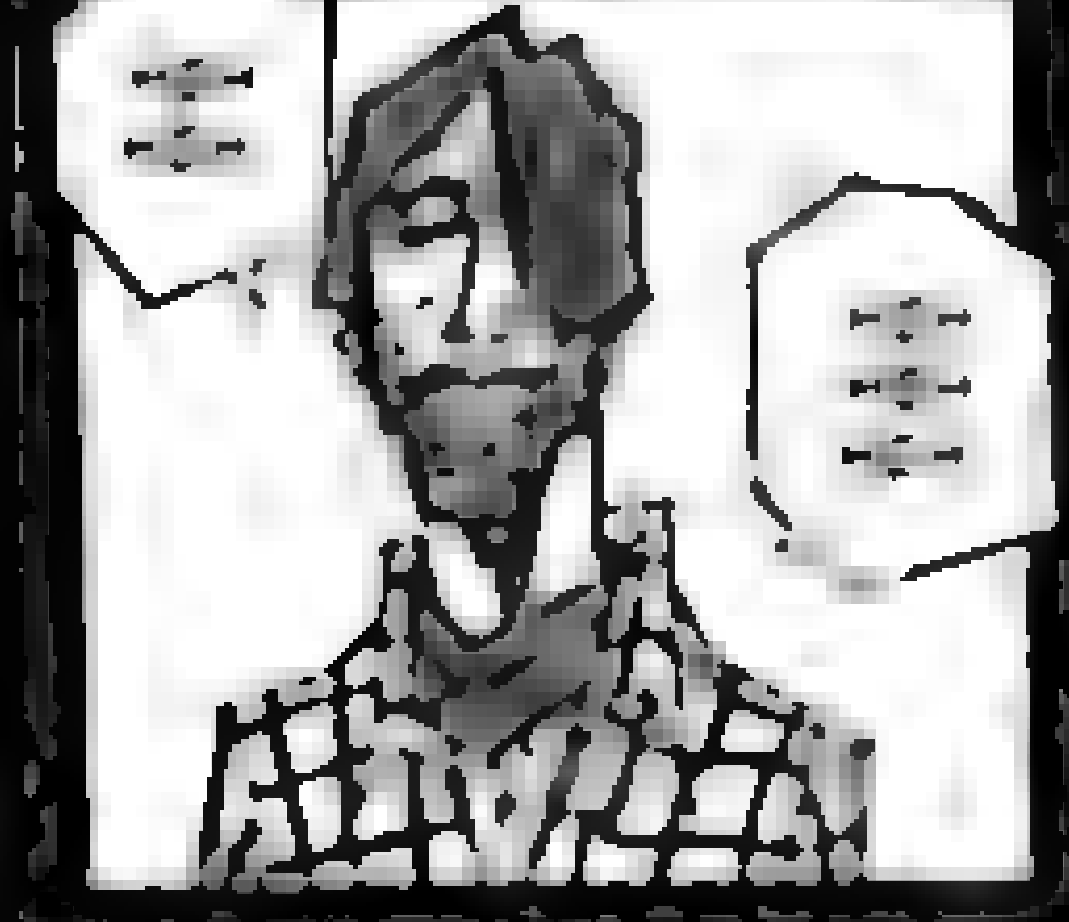
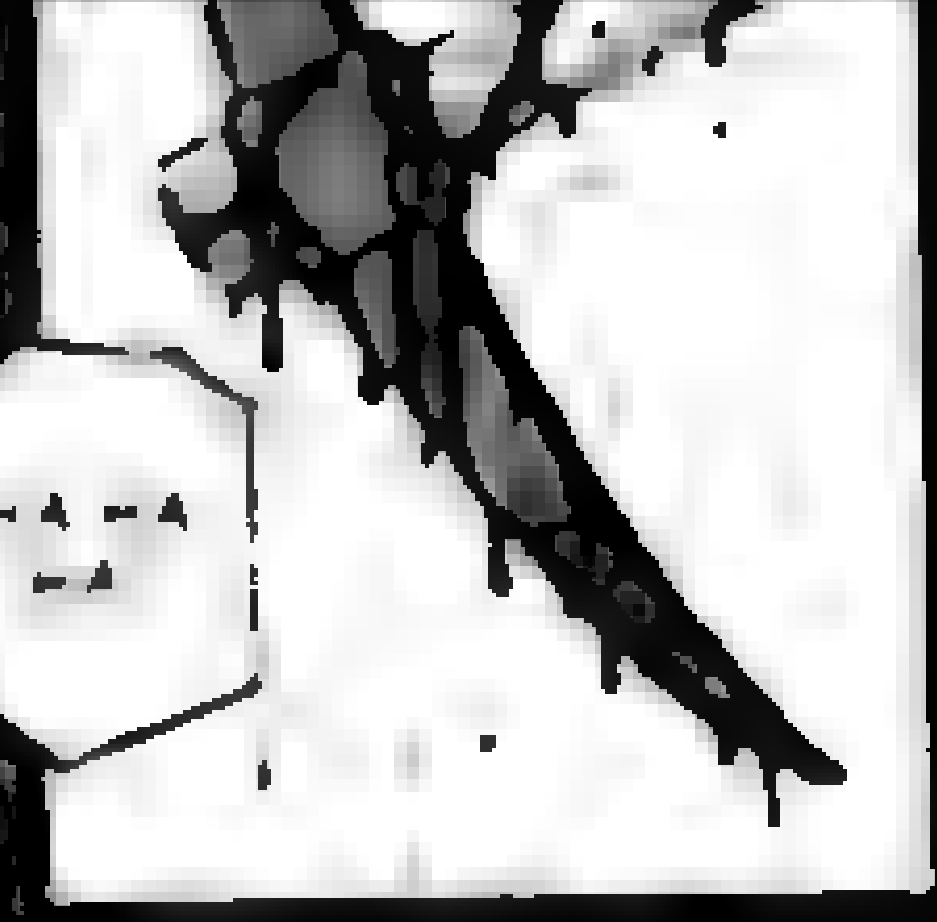
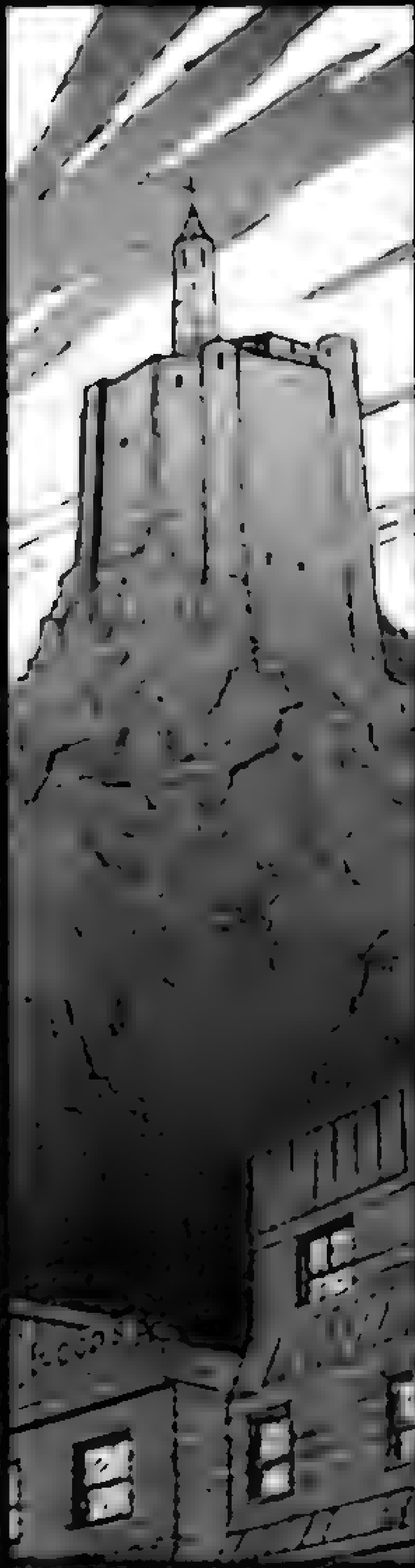
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NOTES:

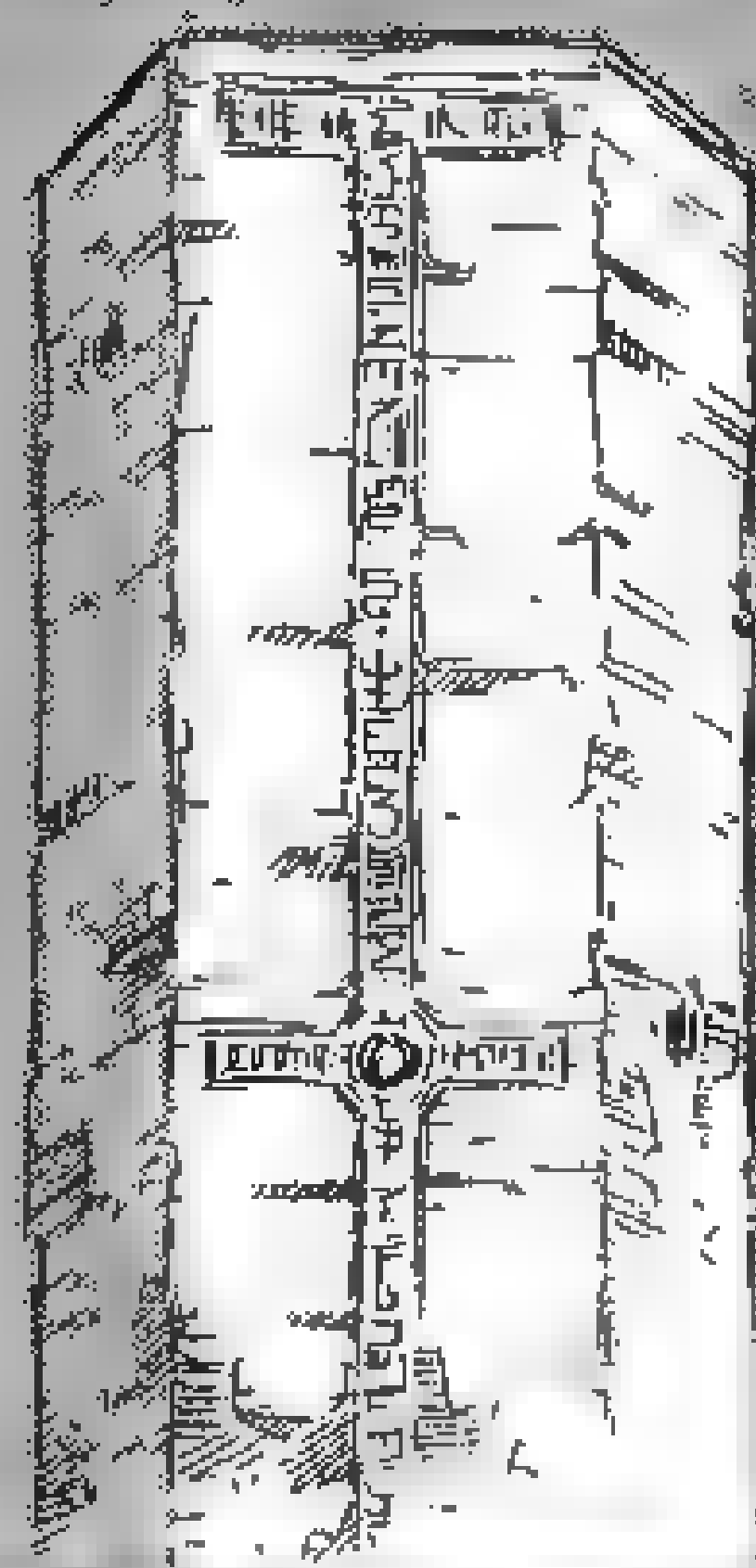
SERIES:	PRIEST
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ENJOY!!!!



THE SIGNS
OF HIS
COMING
HAVE BEEN
THERE ALL
ALONG...



...BUT THE
CHURCH
CHOSE TO
IGNORE
THEM!

IT IS
TIME...



...FOR US
TO ACCEPT
GOD'S
REVELATIONS.

WE'VE
BEEN
HIDING
BEHIND
OUR OLD
WAYS...

JUST
AS HE
SENT HIS
SON 18
CENTURIES
AGO...

...HE
SENDS
A NEW
MESSIAH.



WHAT
?!



... UNABLE
TO ACCEPT
THAT GOD
HAS A NEW
PLAN!



!!



FA-
FATHER
PIESTRO!

YOU...
CAN'T
BE...



!



THAT'S
CRAZY!!



WE DON'T
KNOW
WHAT'S
IN THERE
...



...BUT IT'S
CERTAINLY
NOT A
MESSIAH!





WHAT
HAPPENED
TO YOUR
SCHOLARLY
CURIOSITY?

I THOUGHT
YOU OF
ALL PEOPLE
WOULD
WANT TO
SEE THE
TRUTH.



AFTER
MY
MENTOR,
FATHER
ASHLEY...

...MYSTER-
IOUSLY
PASSED
AWAY ...

I
DEDICATED
MY LIFE TO
FINDING OUT
THE SECRET
THAT HAD
DRIVEN HIM
MAD.



THAT'S
WHEN I
DISCOVERED
...



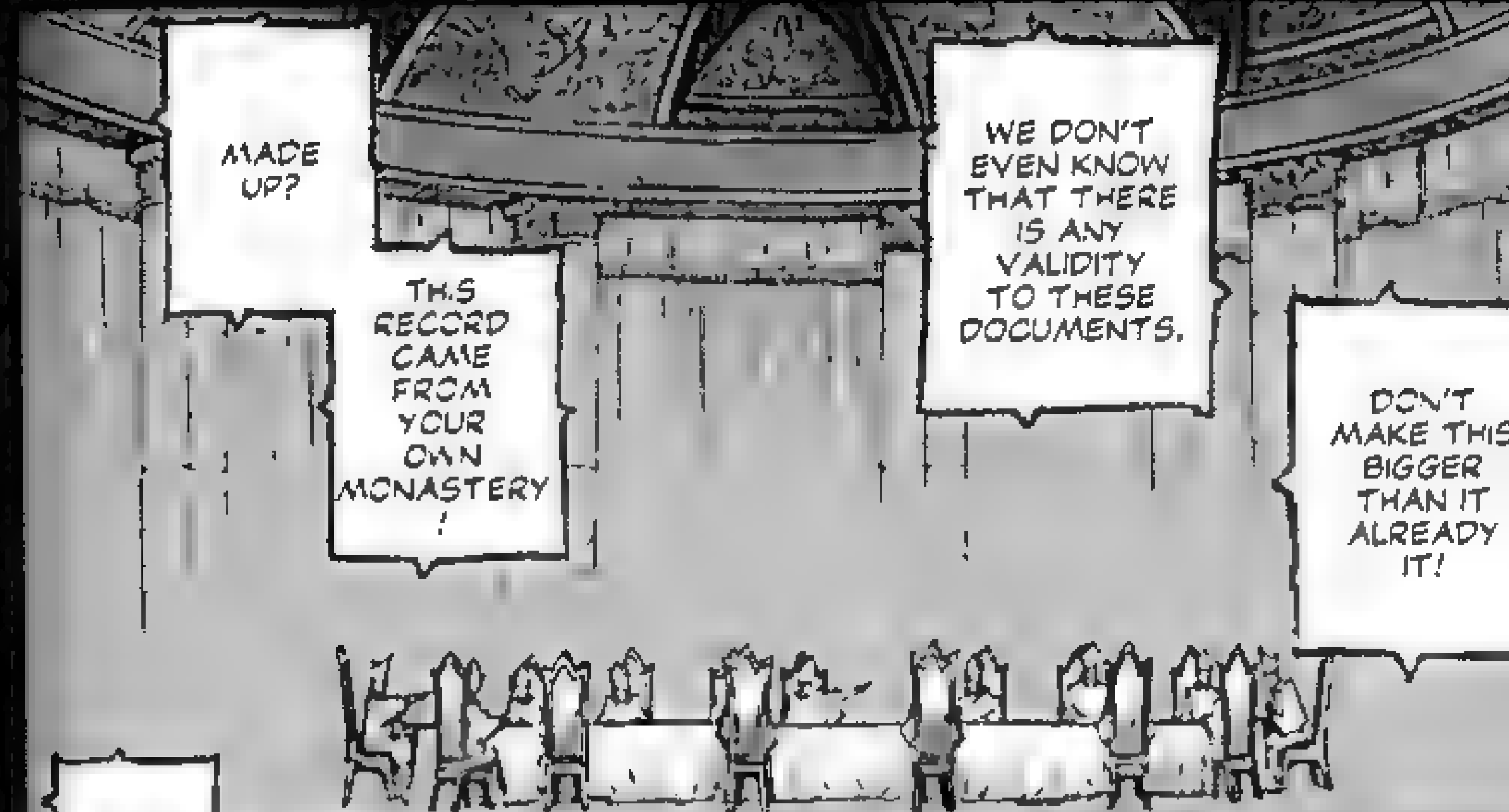
...THE
EXISTENCE
OF THINGS
...

...BEYOND
MY
UNDER-
STANDING
OF THE
FAITH.

THAT'S
NOT
POSSIBLE!



THAT
RECORD
MUST
HAVE BEEN
MADE UP
TO RUIN
OUR
PARISH!



MADE
UP?

THIS
RECORD
CAME
FROM
YOUR
OWN
MONASTERY
!

WE DON'T
EVEN KNOW
THAT THERE
IS ANY
VALIDITY
TO THESE
DOCUMENTS.

DON'T
MAKE THIS
BIGGER
THAN IT
ALREADY
IT!



MAKE
IT
BIGGER
?

THE VERY
EXISTENCE
OF MY
PARISH IS
AT STAKE!

YOU
ACCUSE
US OF
HERESY
?!

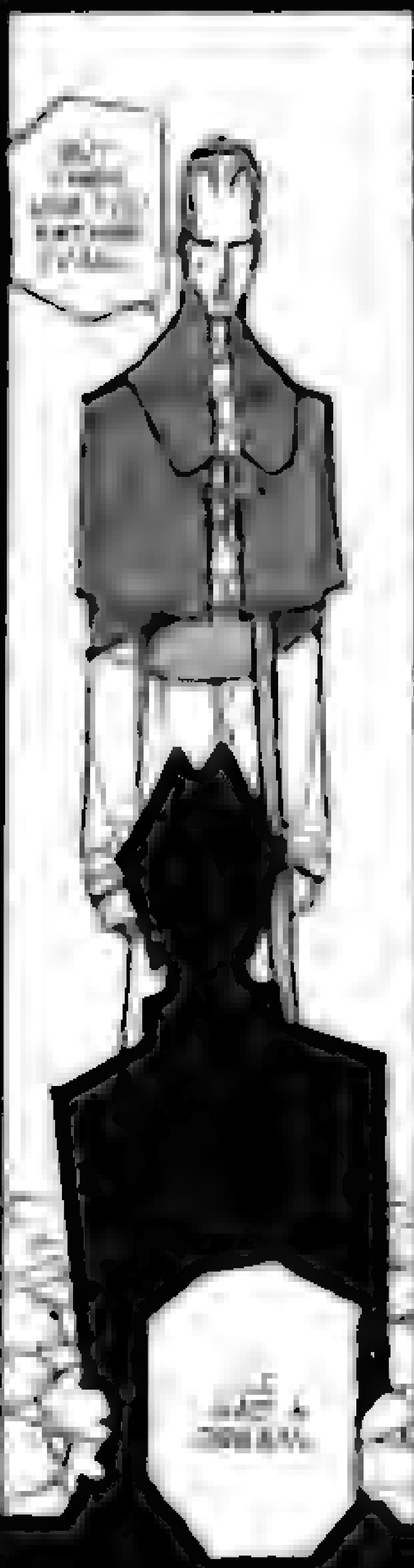
YOUR
PARISH
?

THIS
MATTER
AFFECTS
THE
ENTIRE
CHURCH!

I WILL
NOT SEE
THE
CHURCH
LOSE
FACE...

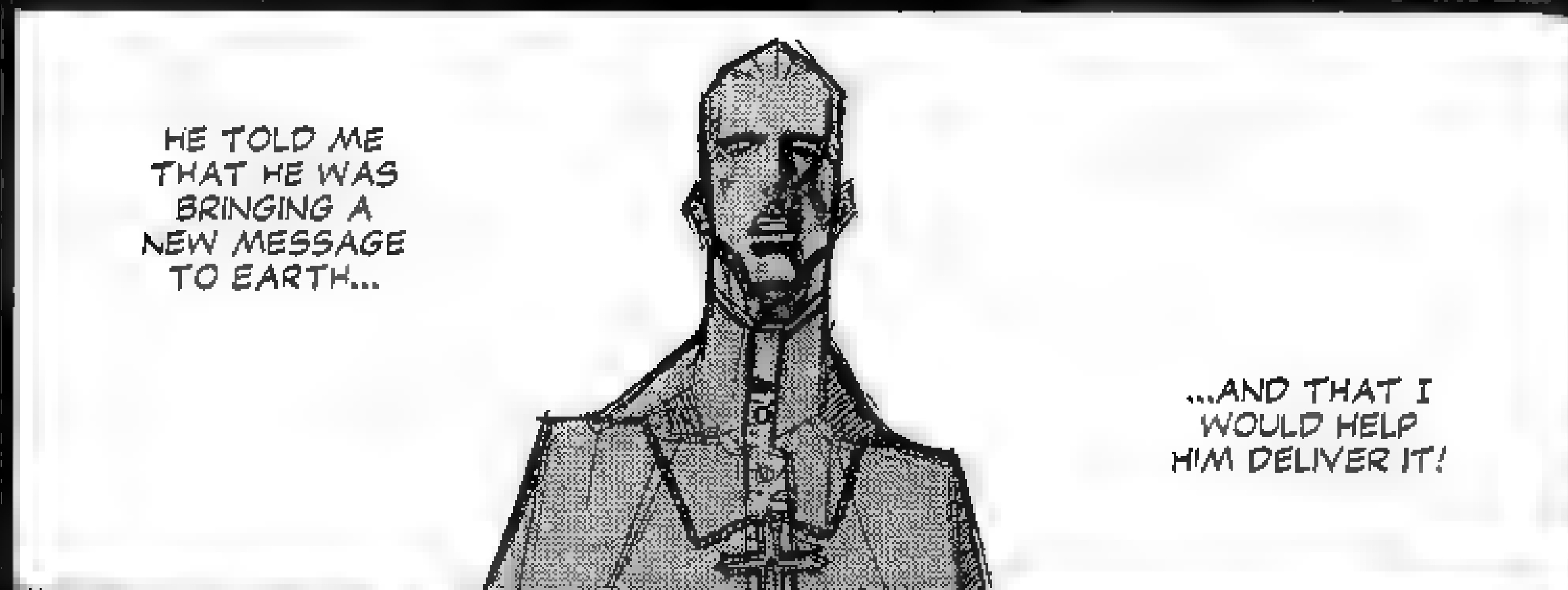
BECAUSE
ONE PARISH
PRACTICES
HERETICAL
WAYS!

OH,
BLESSED
VIRGIN...





GOD SPOKE
TO ME IN
THE FORM
OF AN ANGEL.



HE TOLD ME
THAT HE WAS
BRINGING A
NEW MESSAGE
TO EARTH...

...AND THAT I
WOULD HELP
HIM DELIVER IT!



TH-
THAT
...

...WAS
NOT
GOD!!

DIDN'T
YOU HEAR
THE
ACCOUNT?

THAT
WAS A
FALLEN
ANGEL!



DO YOU
NOT SEE?
THE ERA OF
COMPASSION
IS OVER!

GOD SENT
TEMOZARELA
TO SPREAD
HIS NEW
DOCTRINE!



WE
MUST
BREAK
THE
SEAL...

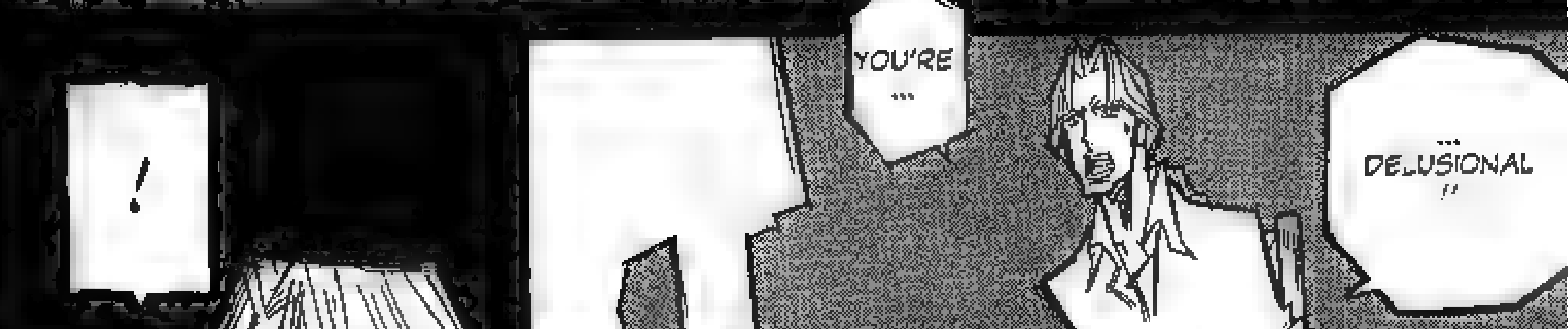
...AND
FREE THE
MESSENGER
...

...SO THAT
THE TRUTH
SHALL BE
KNOWN TO
ALL!



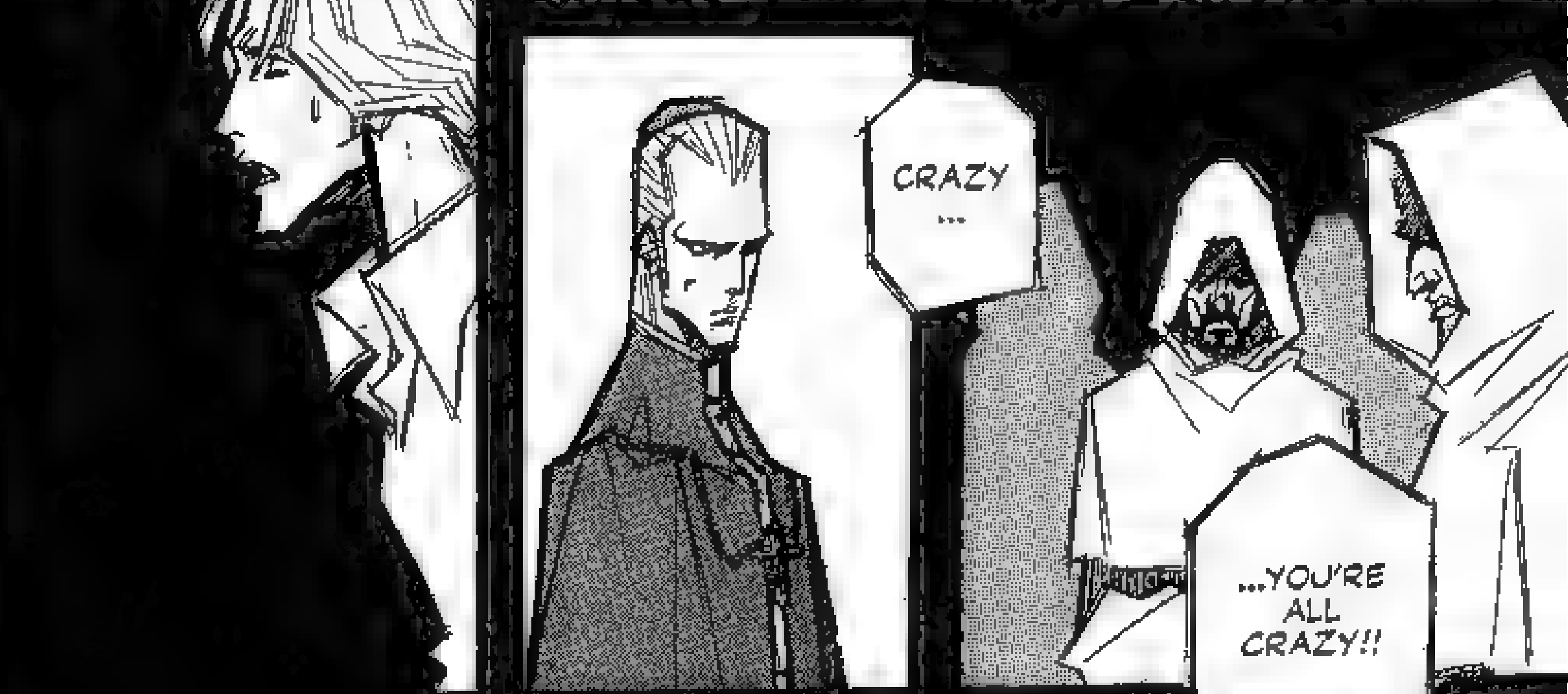
HE BRINGS
THE DOCTRINE
OF
CONDEMNATION
...

...THAT
WILL
PURIFY
OUR
TAINTED
LAND!



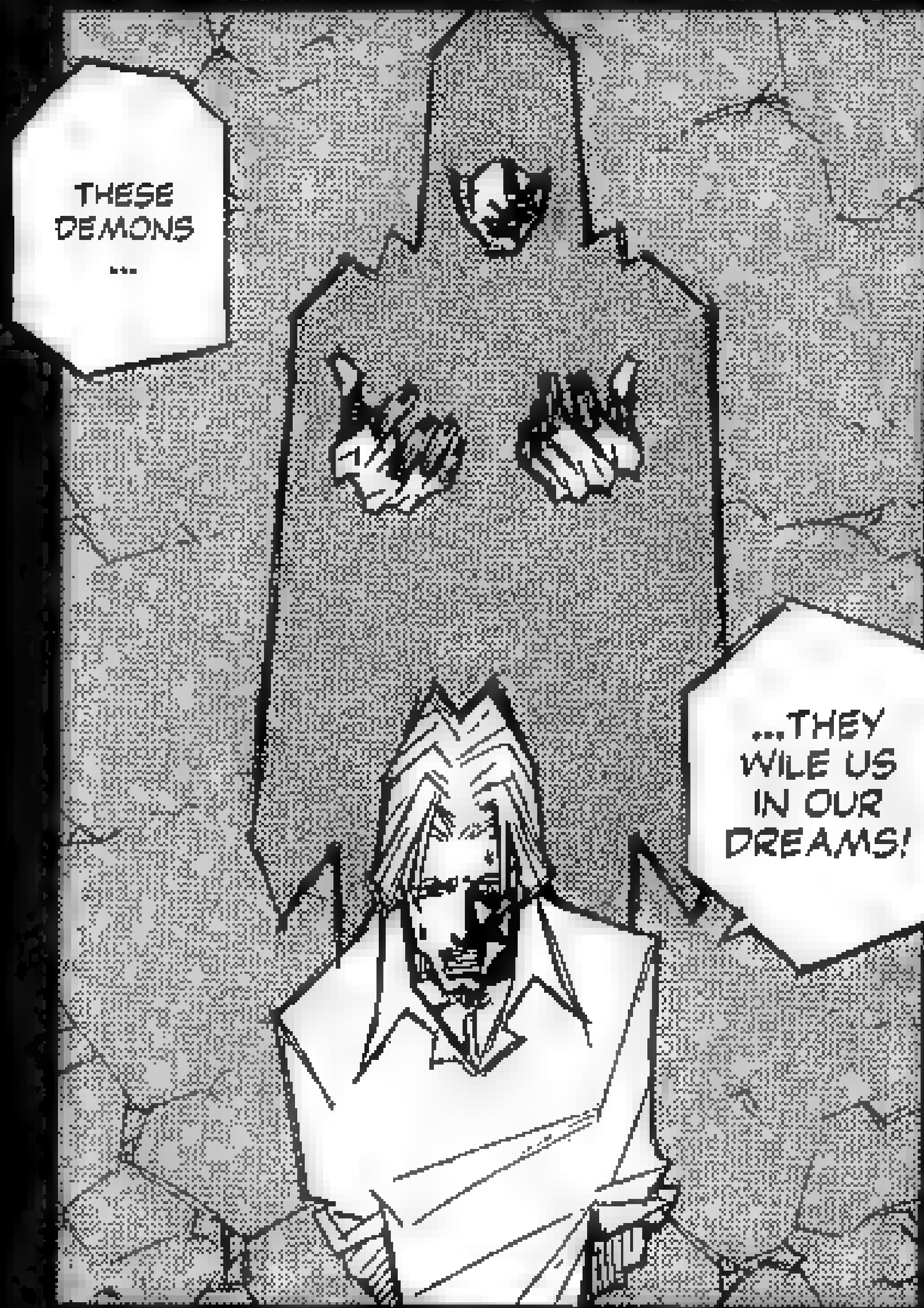
YOU'RE
...

...
DELUSIONAL
!!



CRAZY
...

...YOU'RE
ALL
CRAZY!!



THESE
DEMONS
...

...THEY
WILE US
IN OUR
DREAMS!



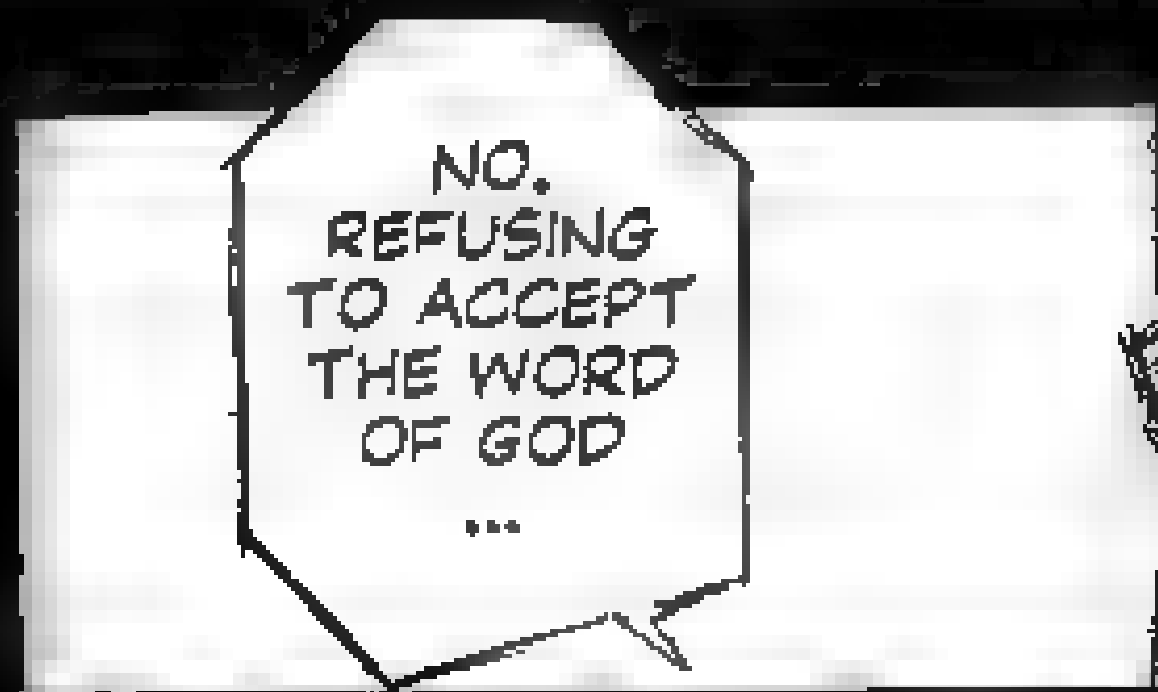
WE
SHOULD
NOT...

...BE
DOING
THIS!



MISJUDGING
THE WILL
OF GOD...

...IS THE
GREATEST
SIN!



NO.
REFUSING
TO ACCEPT
THE WORD
OF GOD
...



...IS AN
EVEN
GREATER
SIN!!

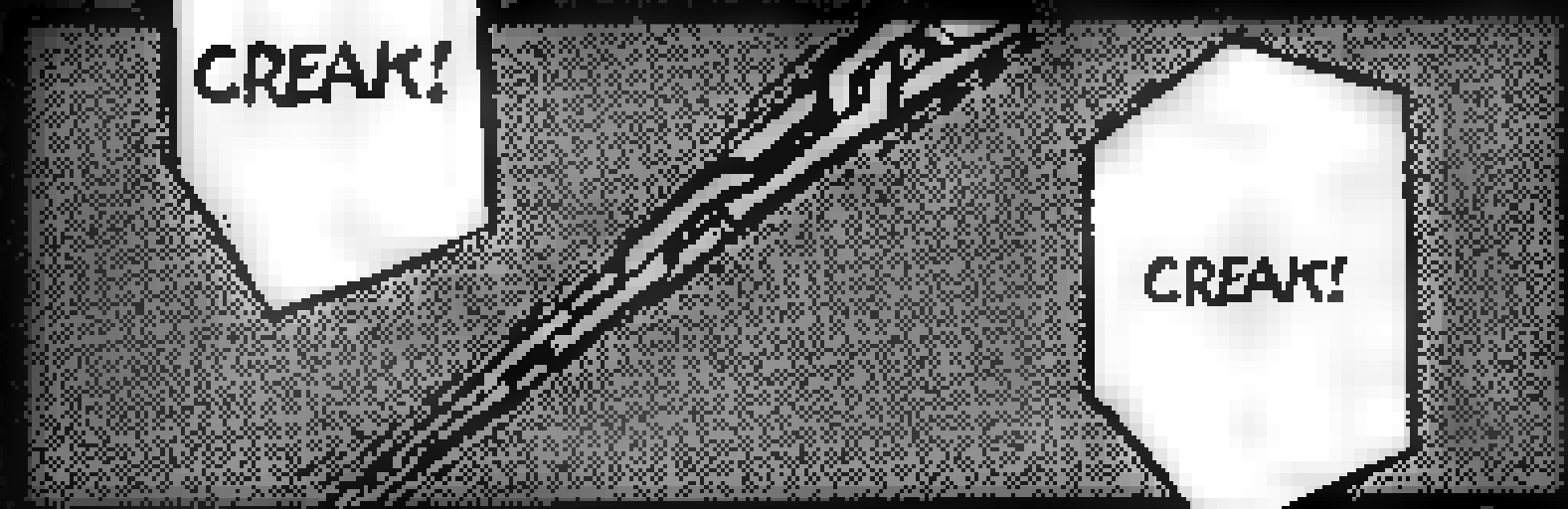


CREAK!

CREAK!

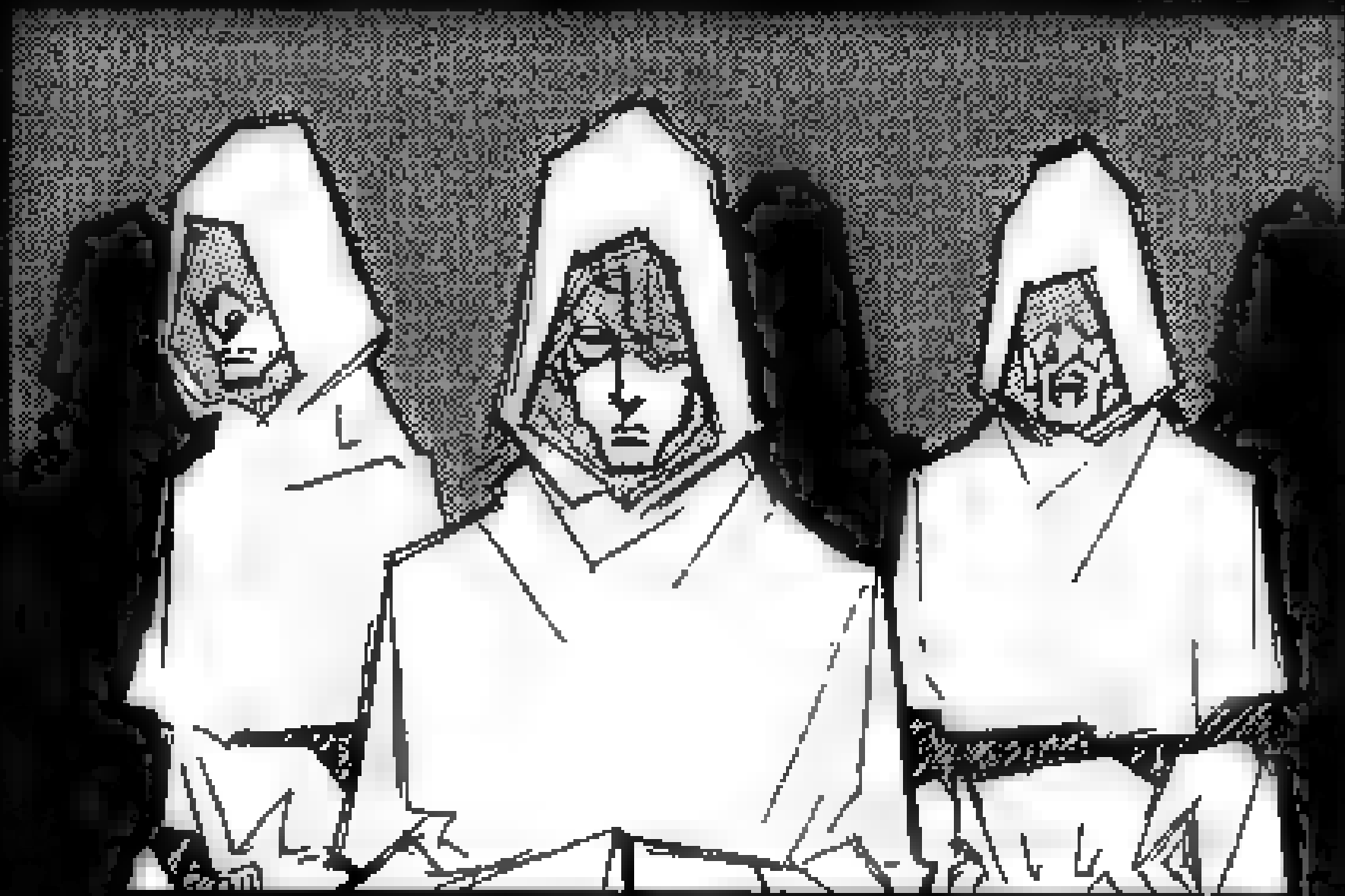
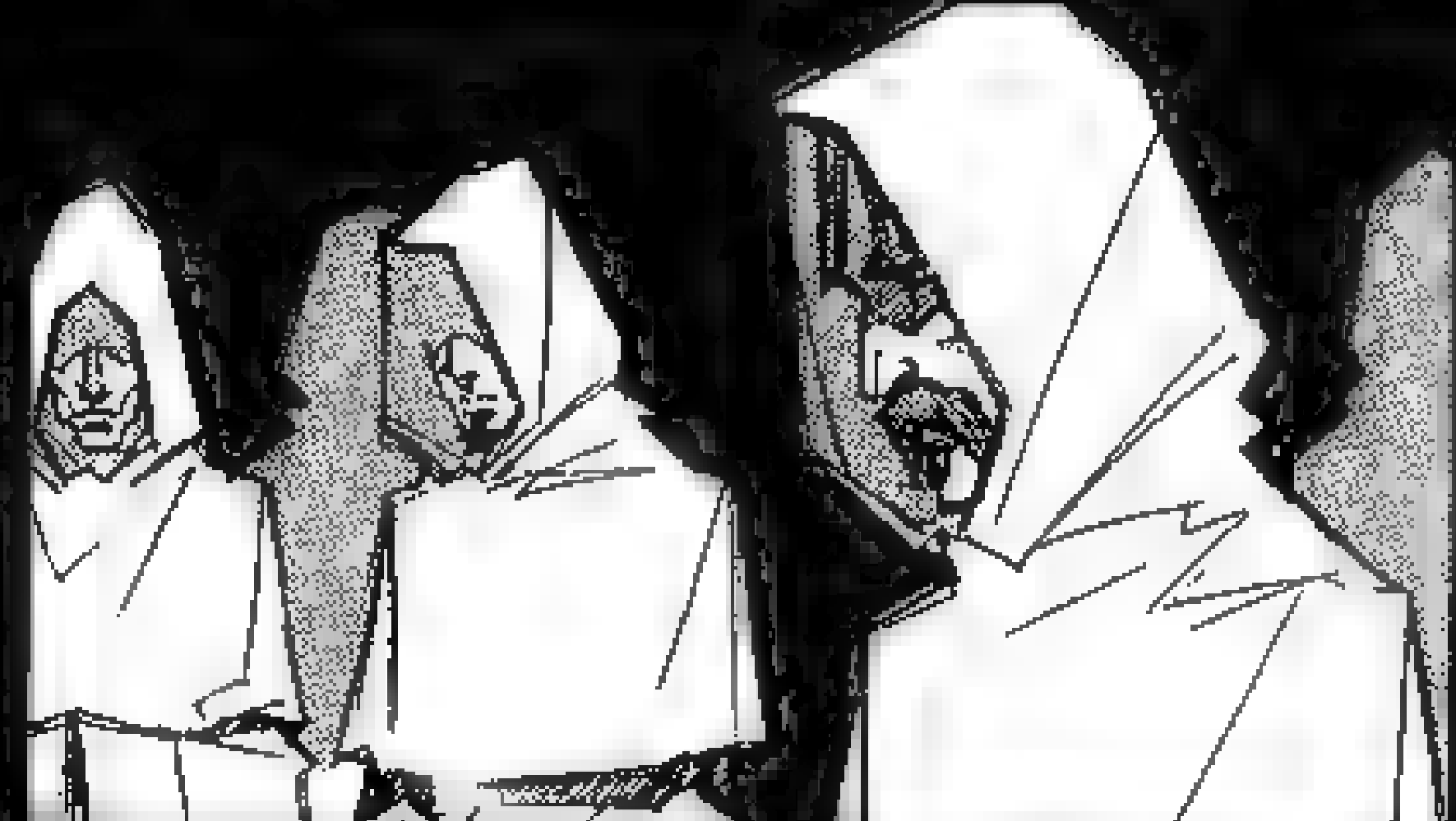
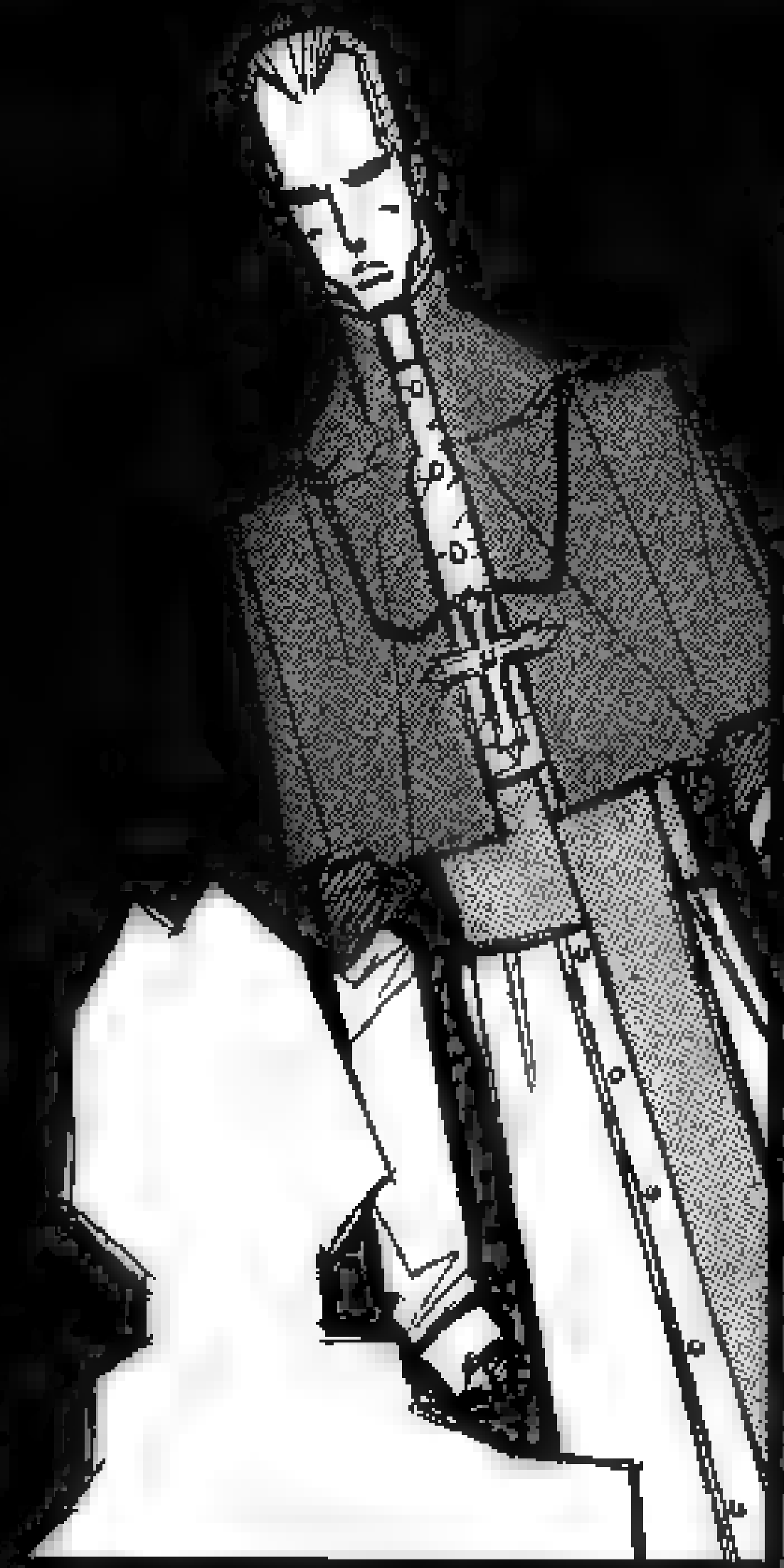


CREAK!



CREAK!

CREAK!



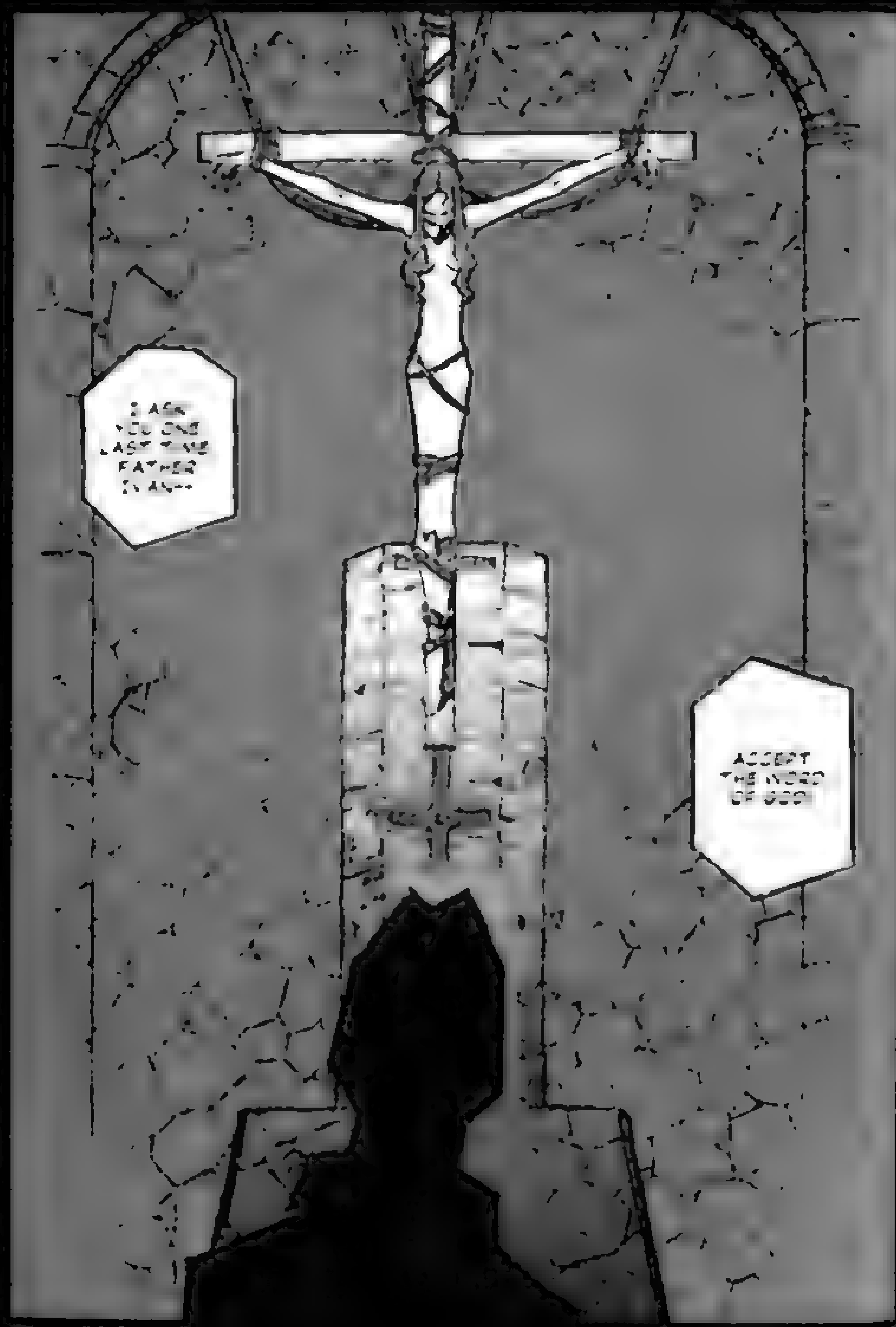
CREAK!

CREAK!



CREAK!

CREAK!



PRIEST

SIRHC-2004.01.26

SYNOPSIS:

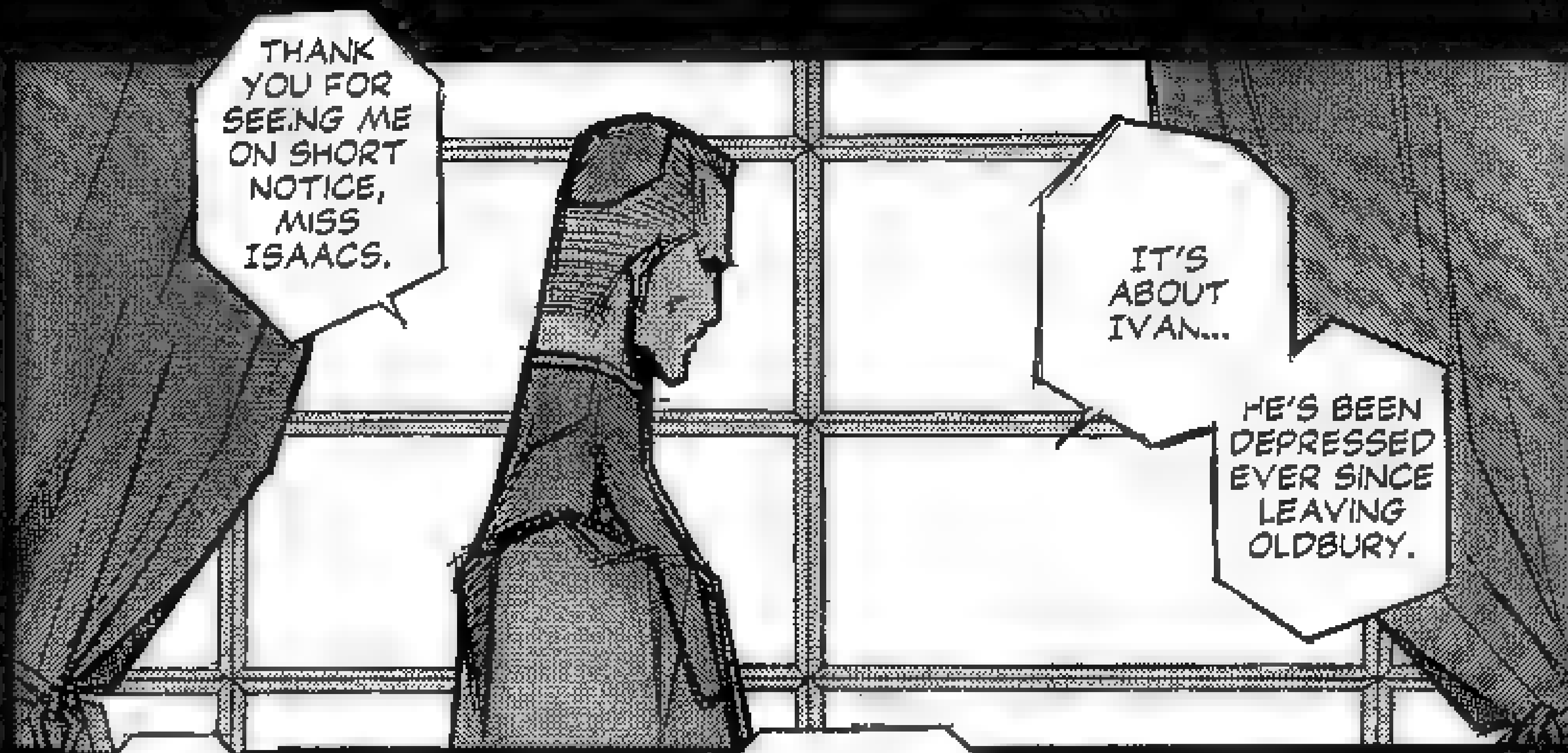
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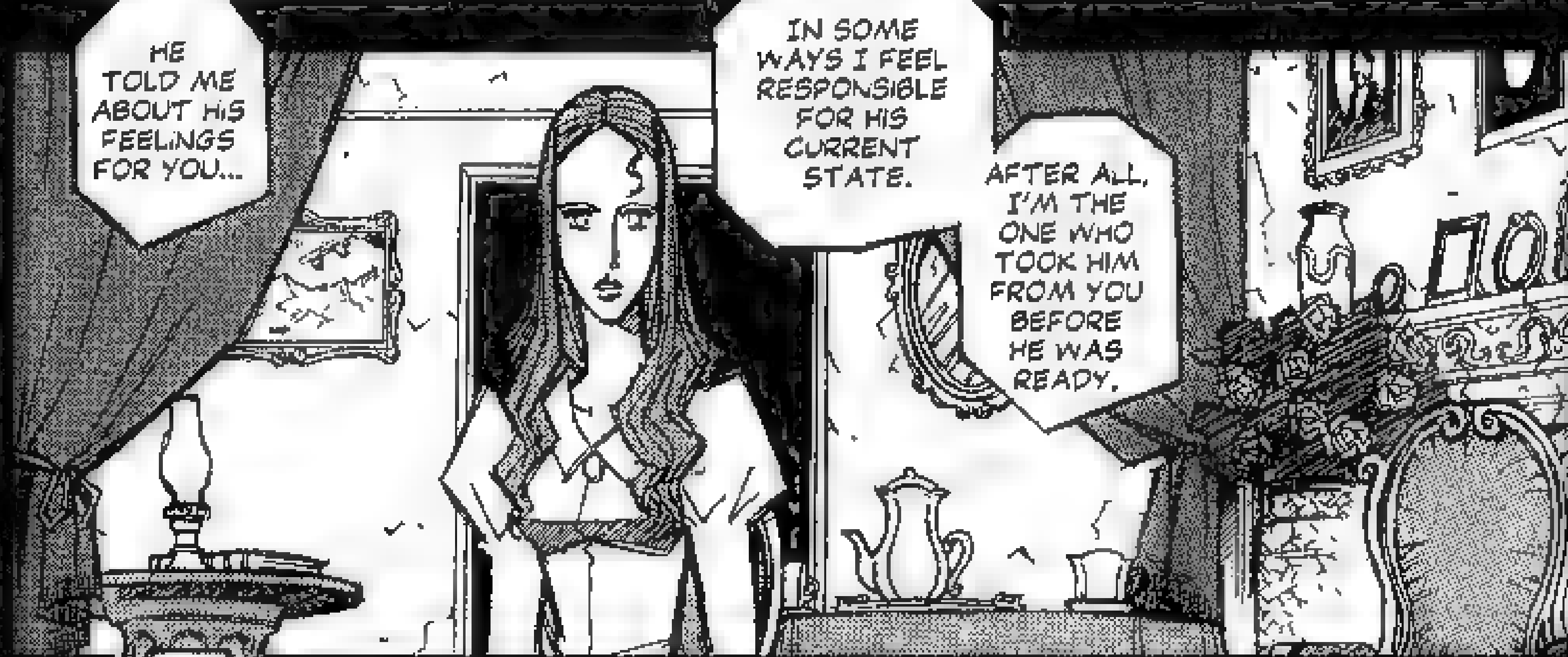
ENJOY!!!!



THANK
YOU FOR
SEEING ME
ON SHORT
NOTICE,
MISS
ISAACS.

IT'S
ABOUT
IVAN...

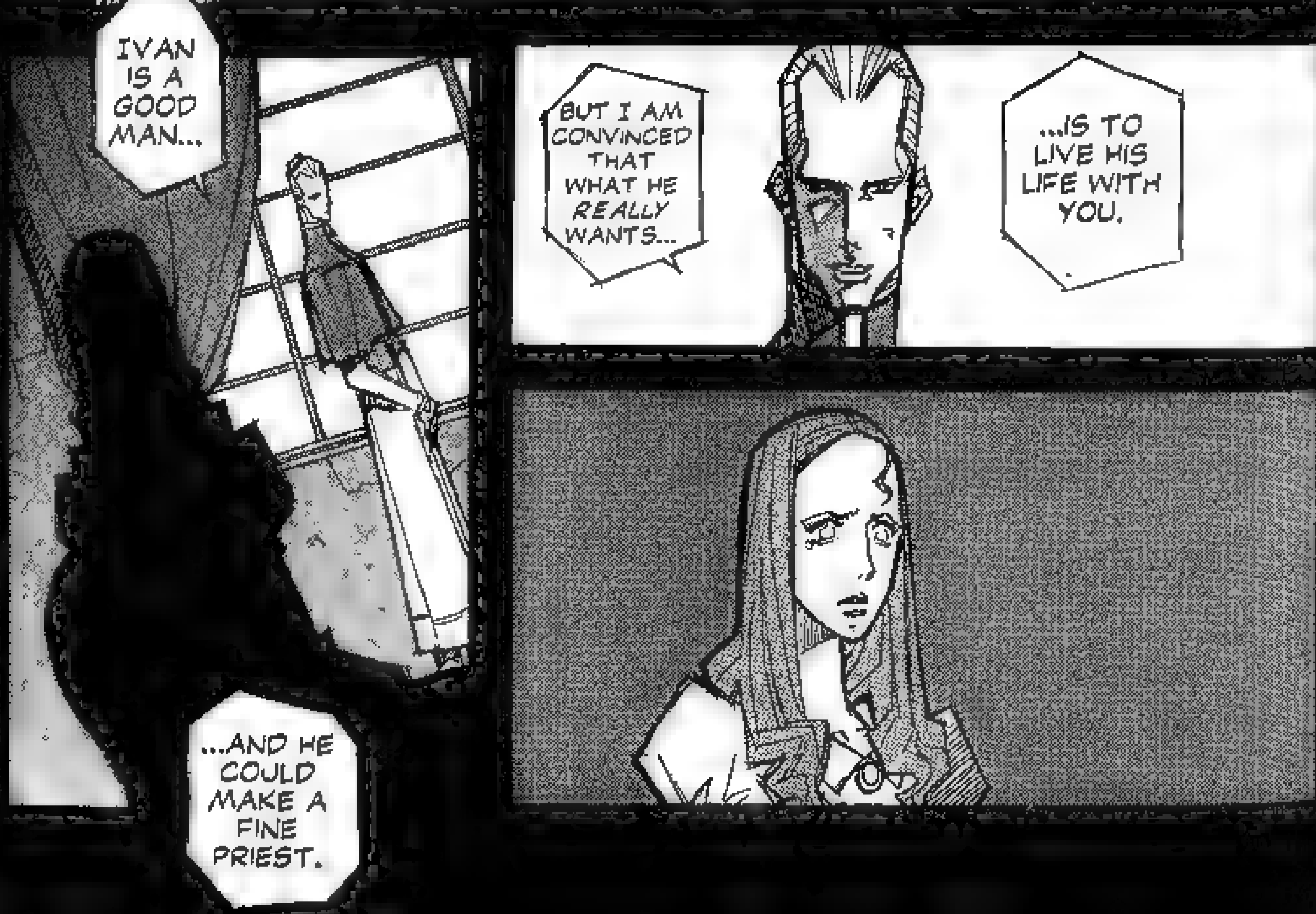
HE'S BEEN
DEPRESSED
EVER SINCE
LEAVING
OLDBURY.



HE
TOLD ME
ABOUT HIS
FEELINGS
FOR YOU...

IN SOME
WAYS I FEEL
RESPONSIBLE
FOR HIS
CURRENT
STATE.

AFTER ALL,
I'M THE
ONE WHO
TOOK HIM
FROM YOU
BEFORE
HE WAS
READY.

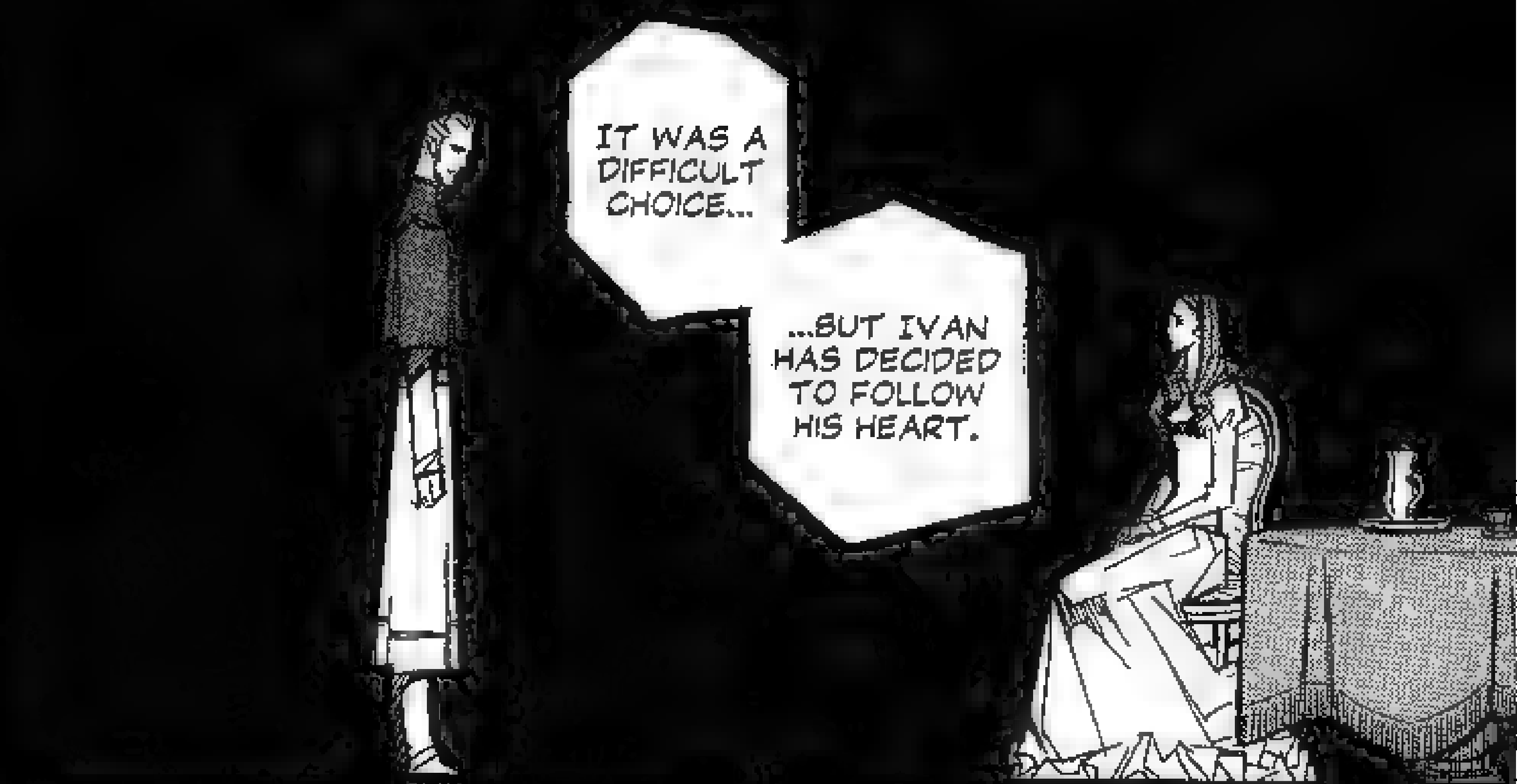


IVAN
IS A
GOOD
MAN...

BUT I AM
CONVINCED
THAT
WHAT HE
REALLY
WANTS...

...IS TO
LIVE HIS
LIFE WITH
YOU.

...AND HE
COULD
MAKE A
FINE
PRIEST.



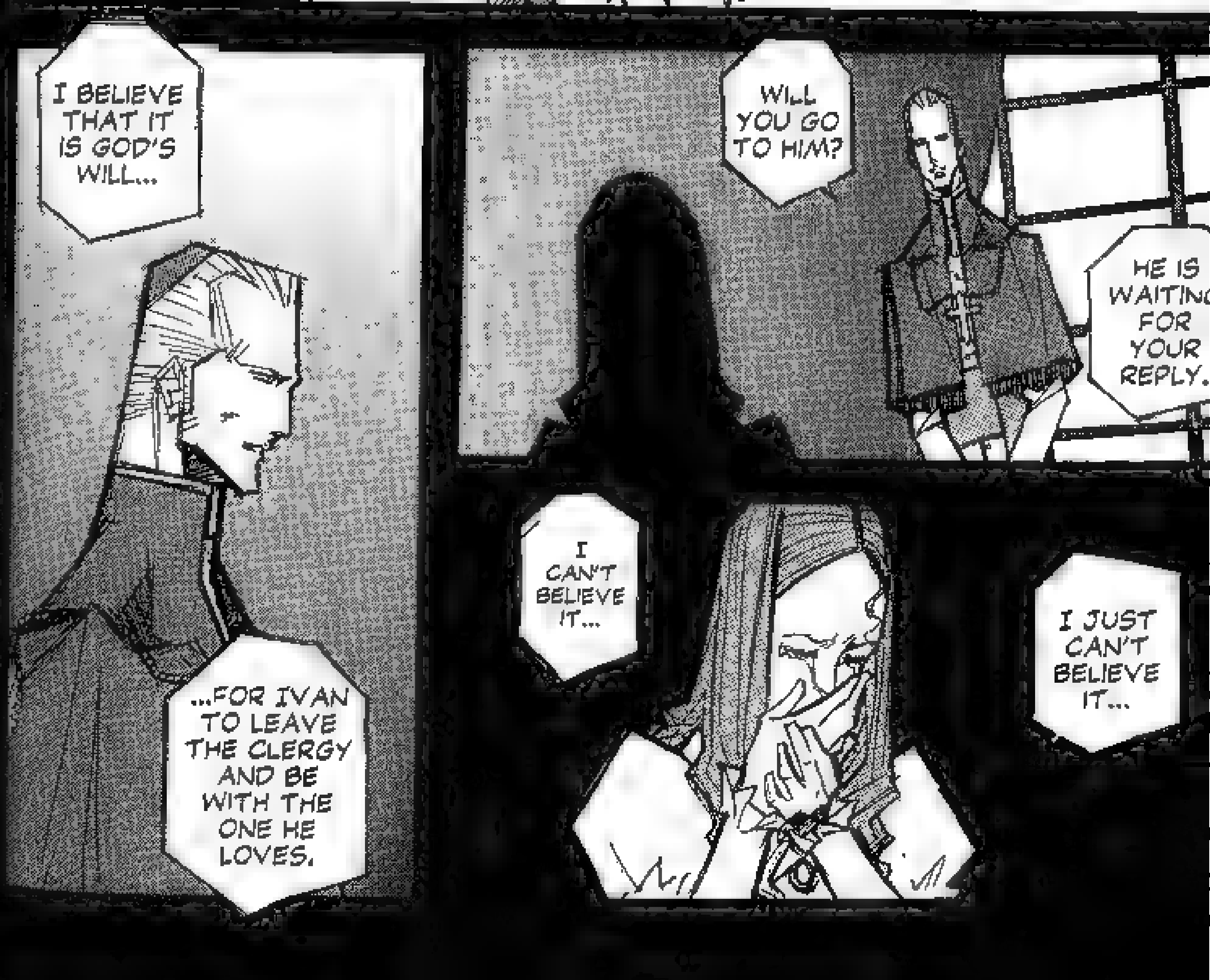
IT WAS A
DIFFICULT
CHOICE...

...BUT IVAN
HAS DECIDED
TO FOLLOW
HIS HEART.



THIS...

THIS
CAN'T
BE...



I BELIEVE
THAT IT
IS GOD'S
WILL...

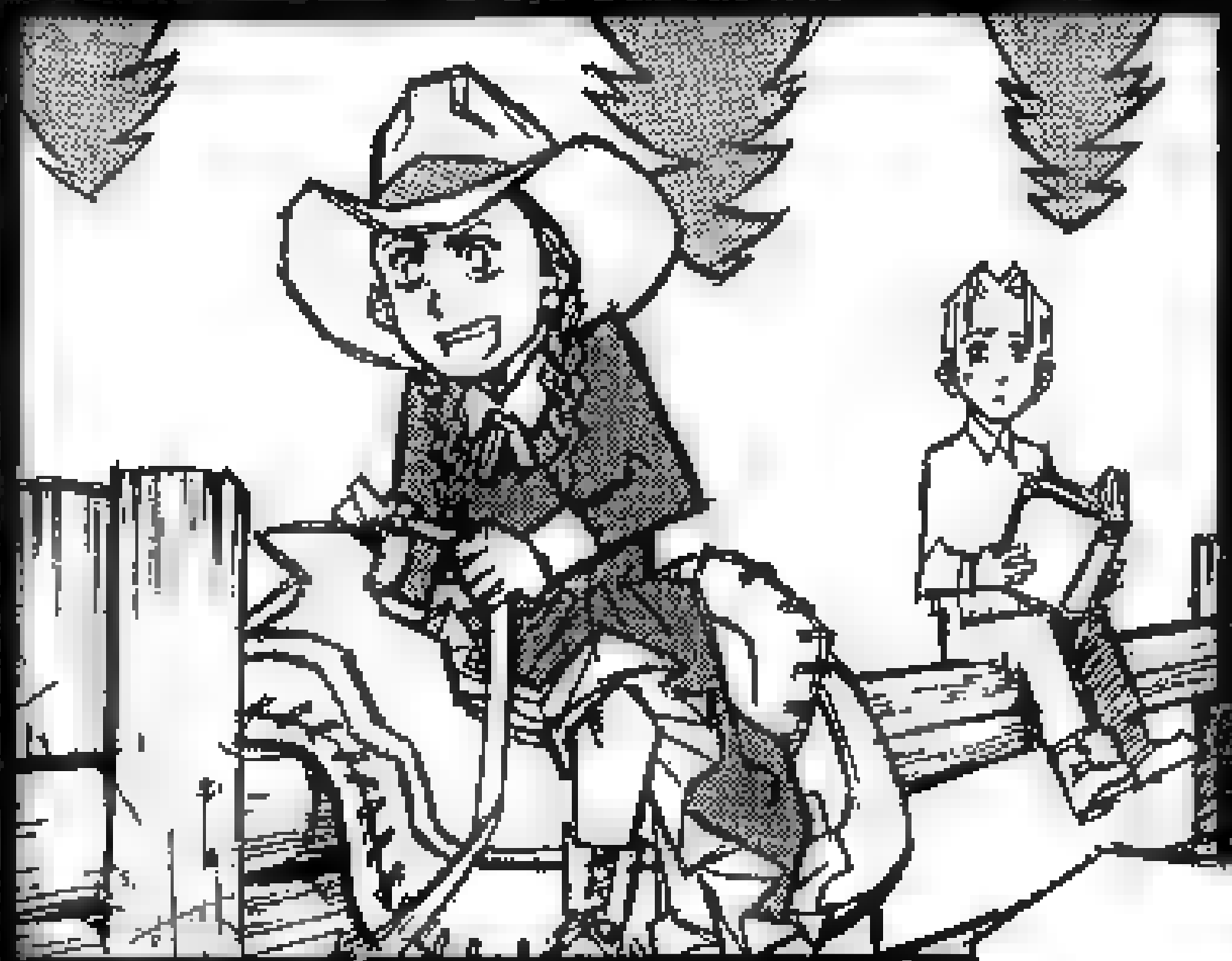
WILL
YOU GO
TO HIM?

HE IS
WAITING
FOR YOUR
REPLY.

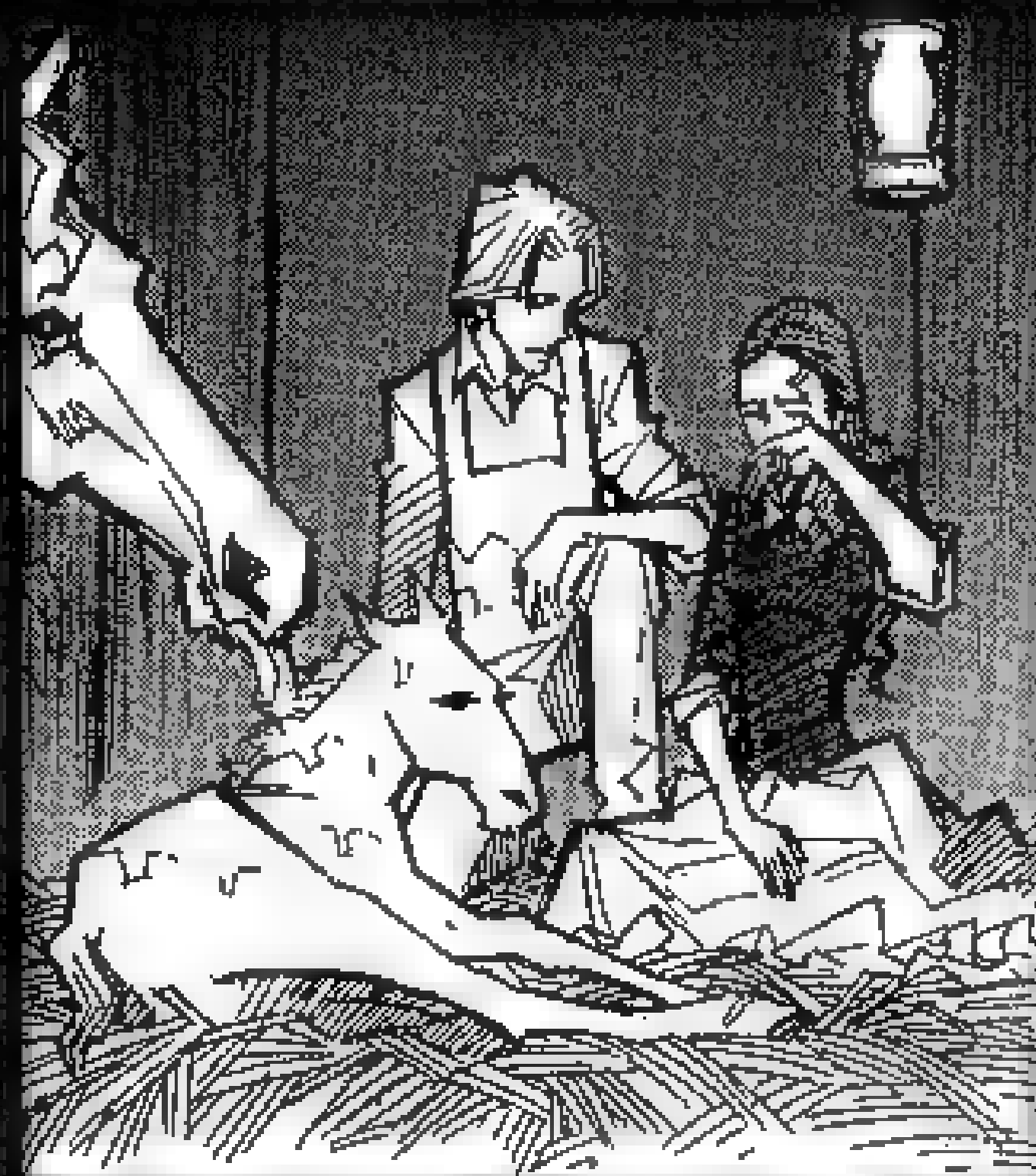
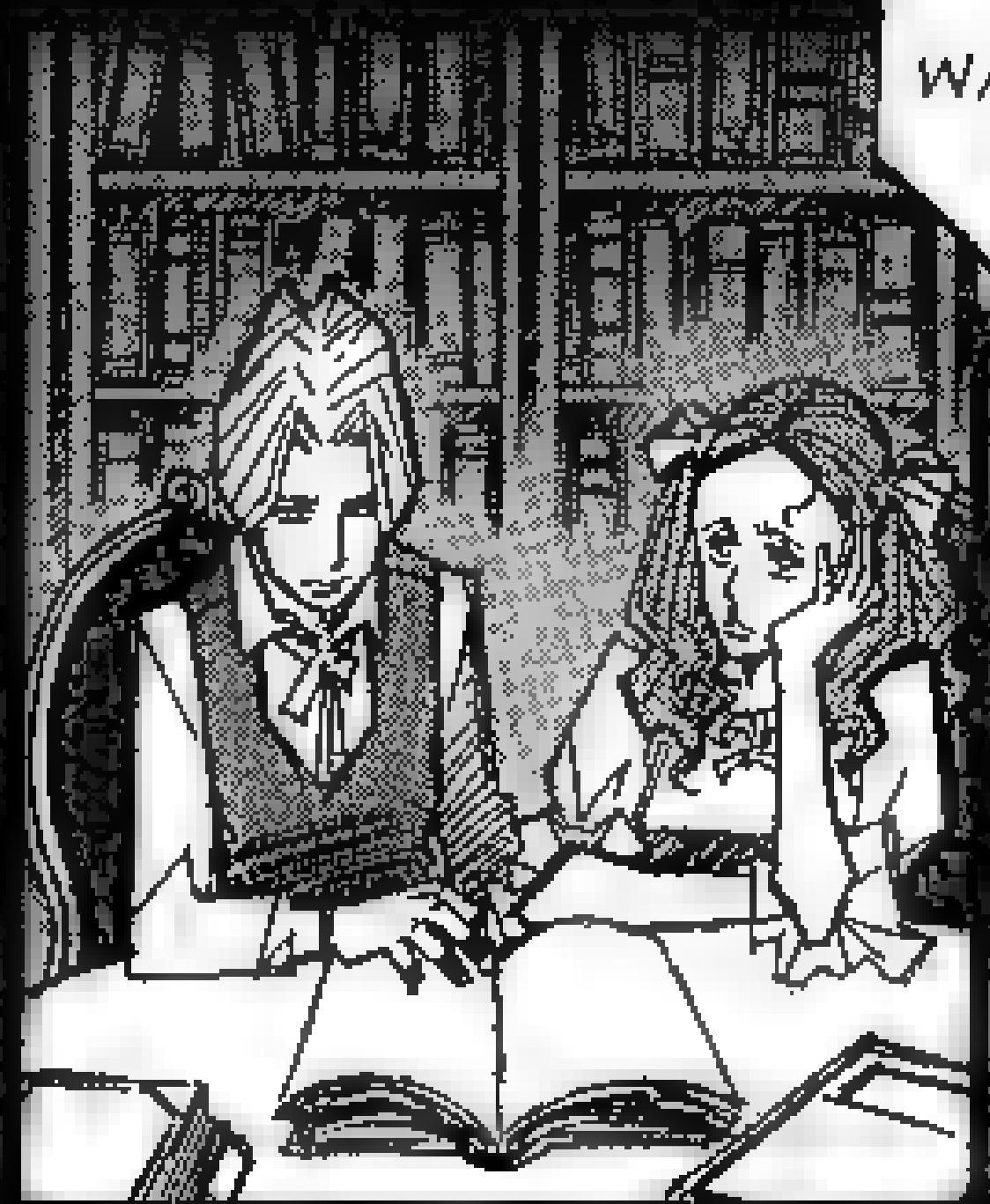
I
CAN'T
BELIEVE
IT...

I JUST
CAN'T
BELIEVE
IT...

...FOR IVAN
TO LEAVE
THE CLERGY
AND BE
WITH THE
ONE HE
LOVES.



I'VE
SEEN
WAITING...



...TOO
LONG...



...MY
WHOLE
LIFE...

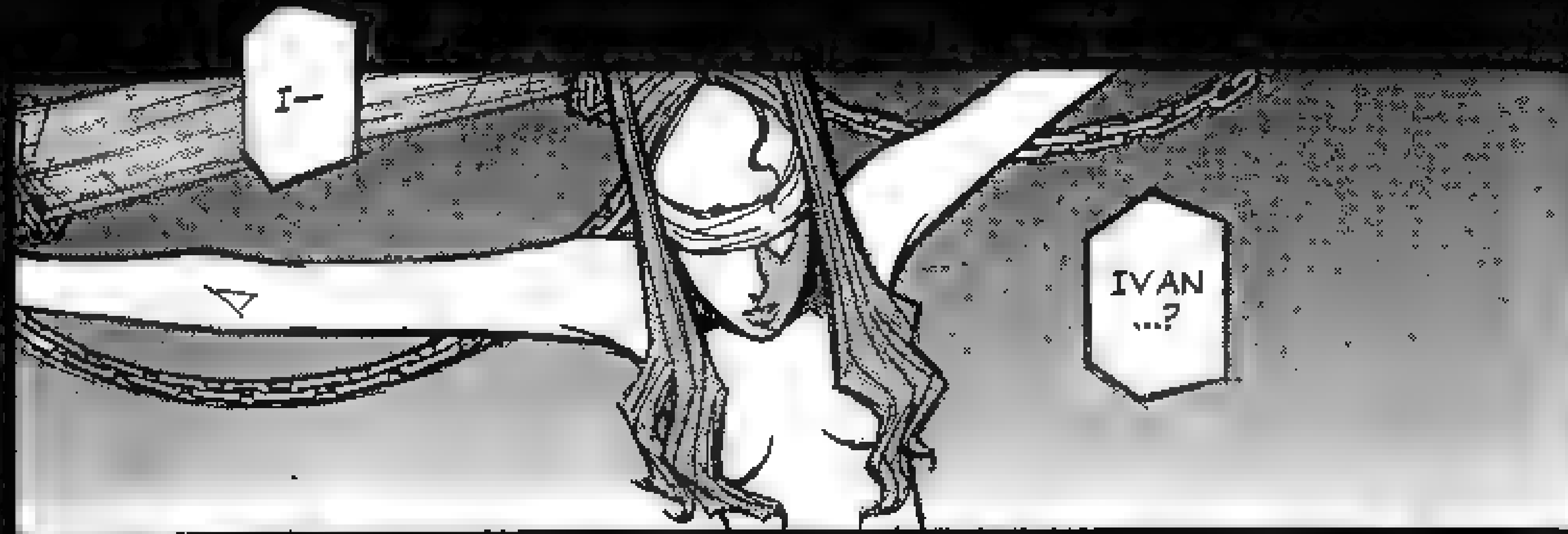


...FOR THIS
MOMENT
TO COME!

GE—

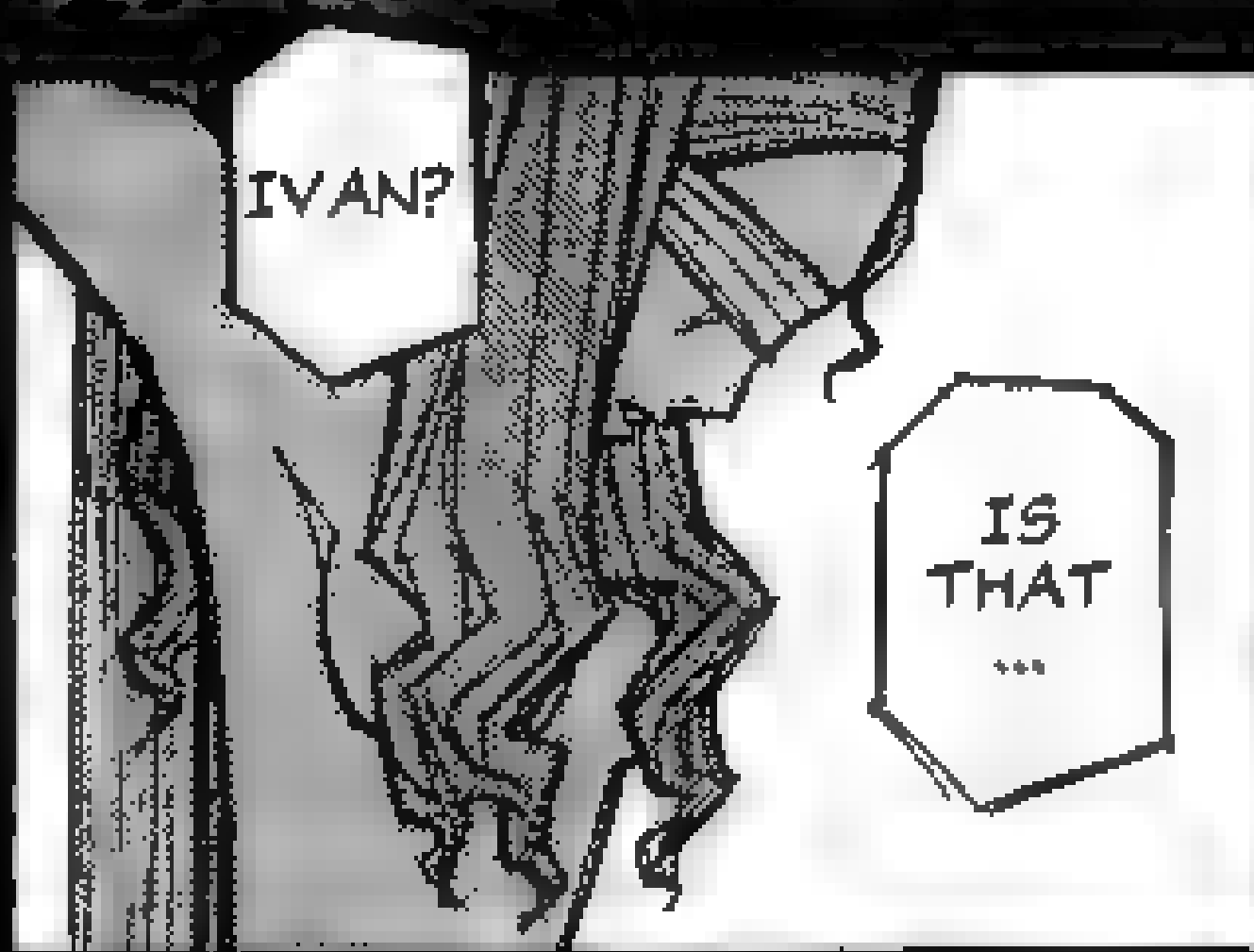
GENA!!!

GENA!!!



I—

IVAN
...?



IVAN?

IS
THAT
...



IS
THAT
YOU?

...!!



WHE—
WHERE
ARE
YOU?

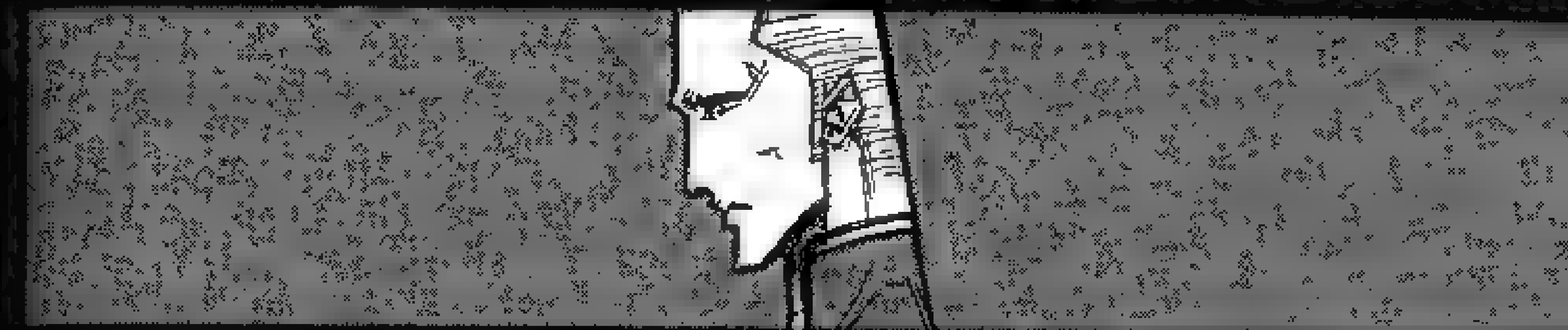
IVAN!

IVAN,
I'M
SCARED!



GENA
!!

I CAN'T
SEE
ANYTHING
...



!

LET HER
DOWN,
GOD
DAMN IT!



WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING TO
GENA?!



SHE
IS THE
SACRIFICE
...

...FOR
OUR HOLY
RITUAL...



!

...TO HELP YOU
CLEARLY
UNDERSTAND
THE MESSAGE
OF GOD.

IF YOU
TOUCH
HER...

...I'LL
KILL
YOU!!!

THAT LACK
OF SELF-
CONFIDENCE
IS...

...NOW
MAKING
YOU GO
AGAINST
GOD'S
WILL!

IVAN
!!

WHY DO
YOU
REFUSE
TO SEE
?!?!

AREN'T YOU
THE ONE
WHO GAVE
UP LOVE
BECAUSE OF
YOUR LACK
OF SELF-
CONFIDENCE?

HOW
MUCH
LONGER
...

...WILL YOU
BE IN
CONTEMPT
OF GOD'S
WILL?

CREAK!

CREAK!

CREAK!

CREAK!

CREAK!

I'M
SORRY TO
HAVE TO
DO THIS,
IVAN...

...BUT
IT'S
FOR YOUR
OWN GOOD.

CREAK!

WHEN GOD
NEEDED
ABRAHAM
TO PROVE
HIS FAITH...

...HE ASKED
HIM TO
SACRIFICE
HIS OWN
SON.

THE
DOCTRINE OF
COMPASSION
IS OVER.

THE WINDS OF
CONDEMNATION
WILL SWEEP
ACROSS THE
EARTH.

THOSE
WHOSE
FAITH
STANDS
STRONG
WILL INHERIT
GOD'S
KINGDOM...

...BUT THE
WEAK OF
SPIRIT SHALL
BE BLOWN
AWAY LIKE
CHAFF FROM
THE STALK.

IVAN...

...
WHERE
ARE
YOU?

BUT
BEFORE
ABRAHAM
CARRIED
OUT THE
ACT...

...GOD
STAYED
HIS HAND
AND
SAVED
THE BOY.

STOP
...

STOP...

TIMES
HAVE
CHANGED.

INDIFFERENCE
AND
AGNOSTICISM
SHALL NO
LONGER
POLLUTE OUR
CHURCH!

IN THE
NAME OF
THE GOD
OF
CONDEMNATION!

BLESSED
VIRGIN!!!



PLEASE
FORGIVE
OUR
SINS!!!



PRIEST

SIRHC-2004.01.26

SYNOPSIS:

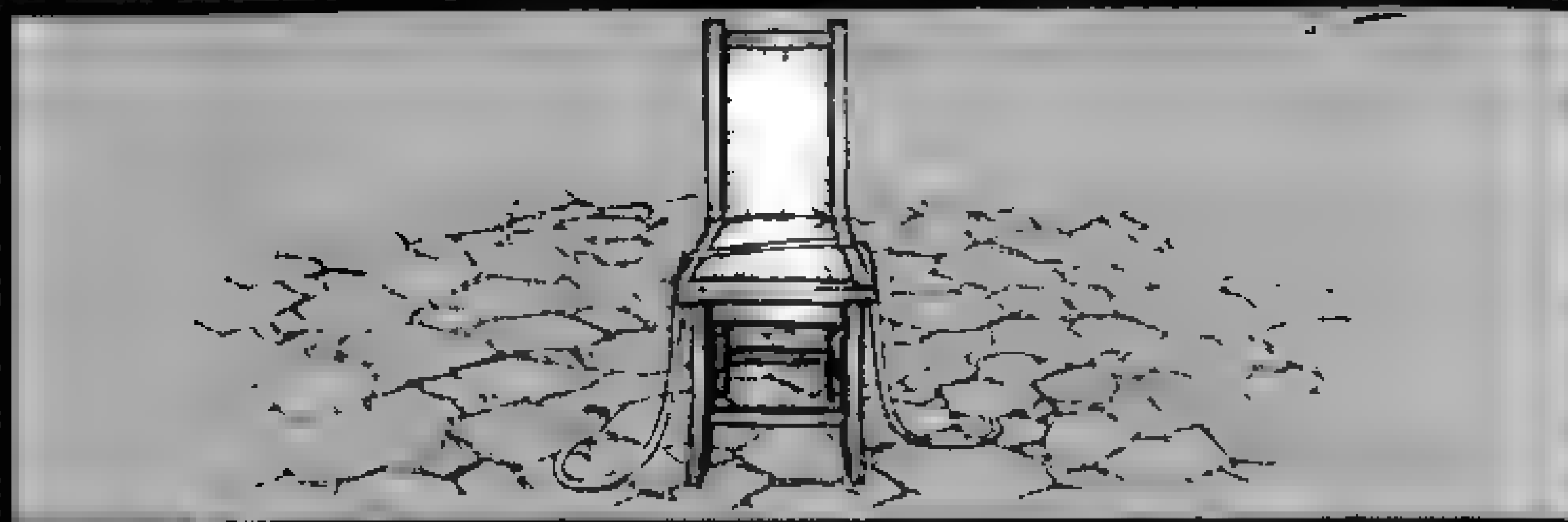
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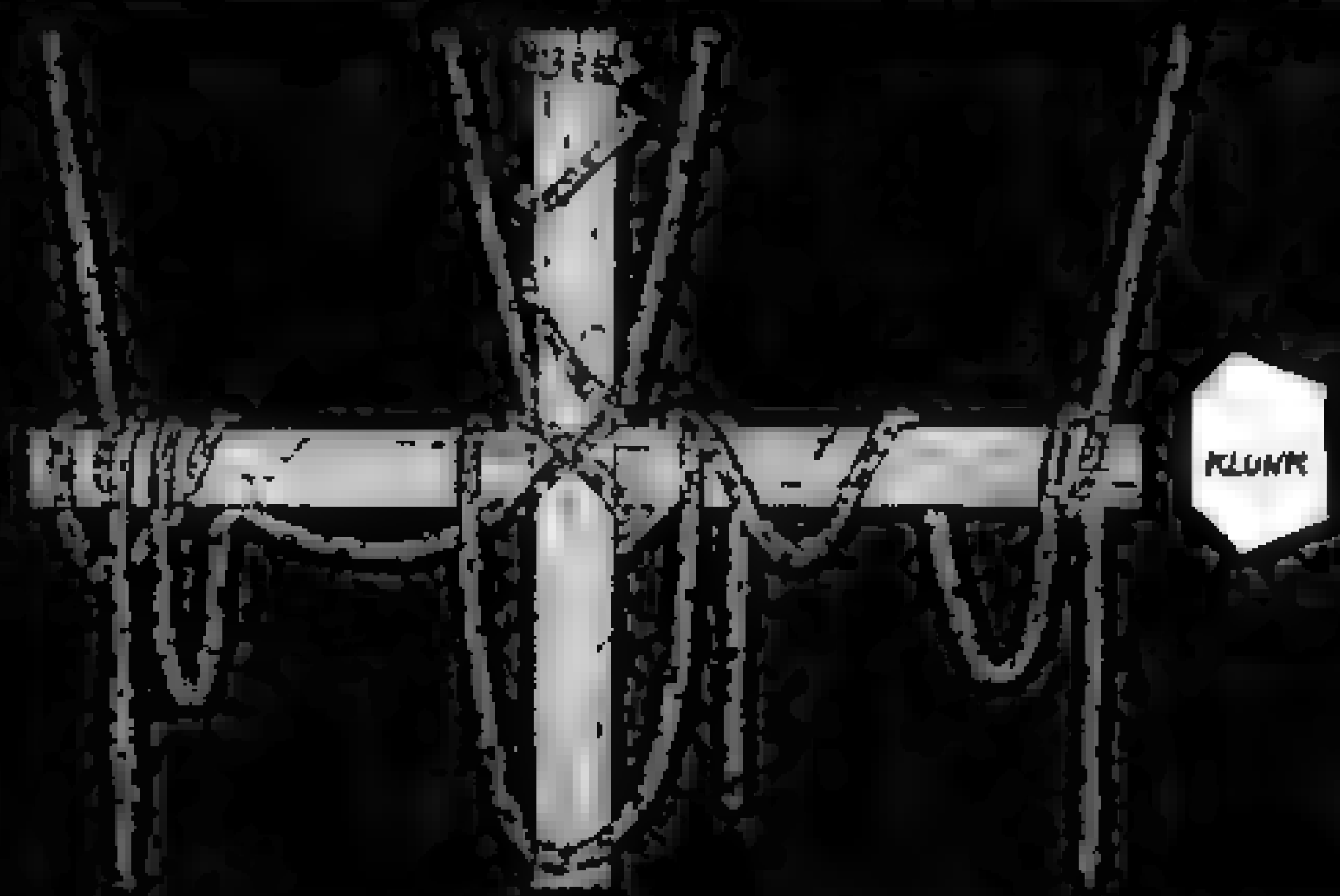
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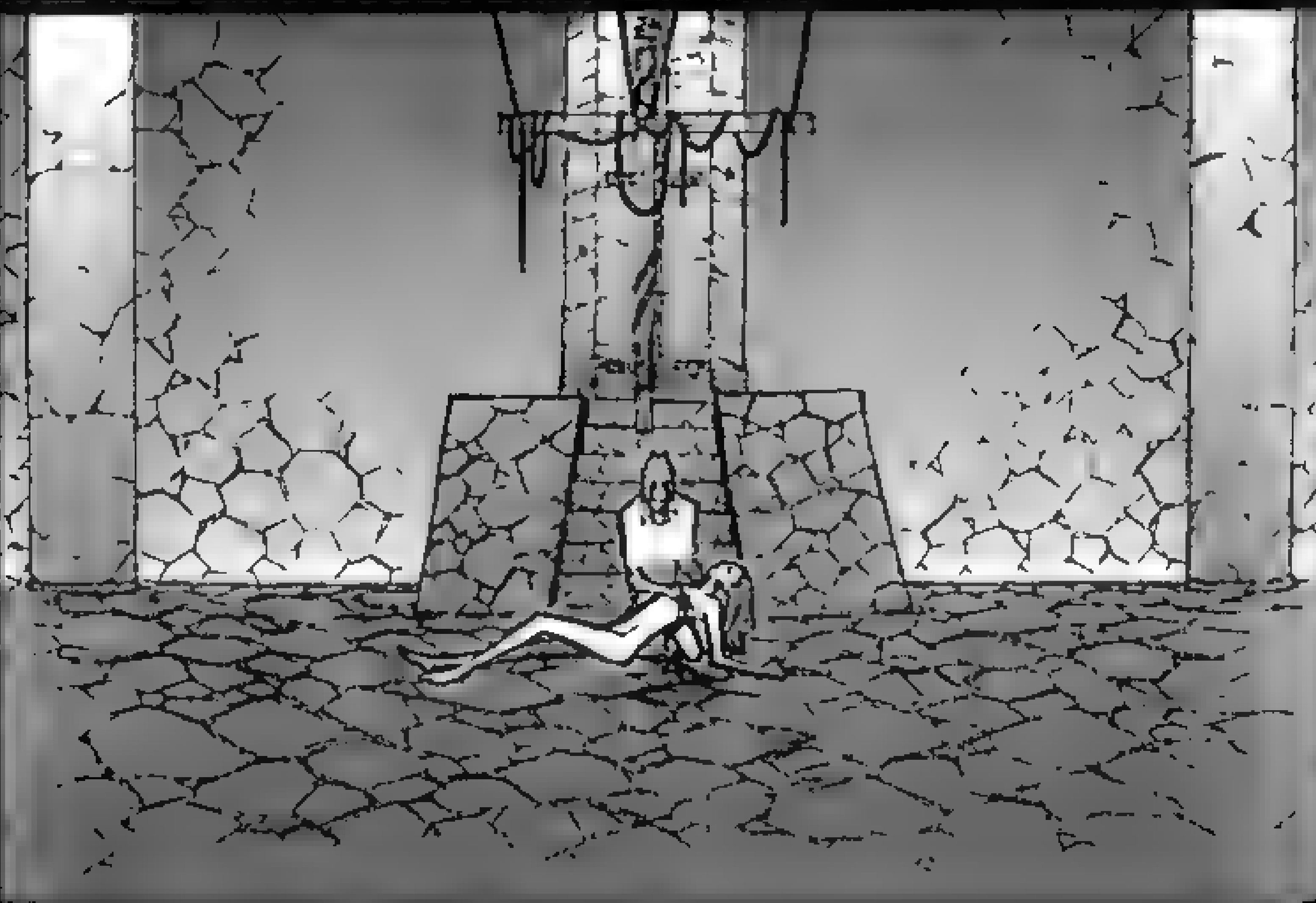
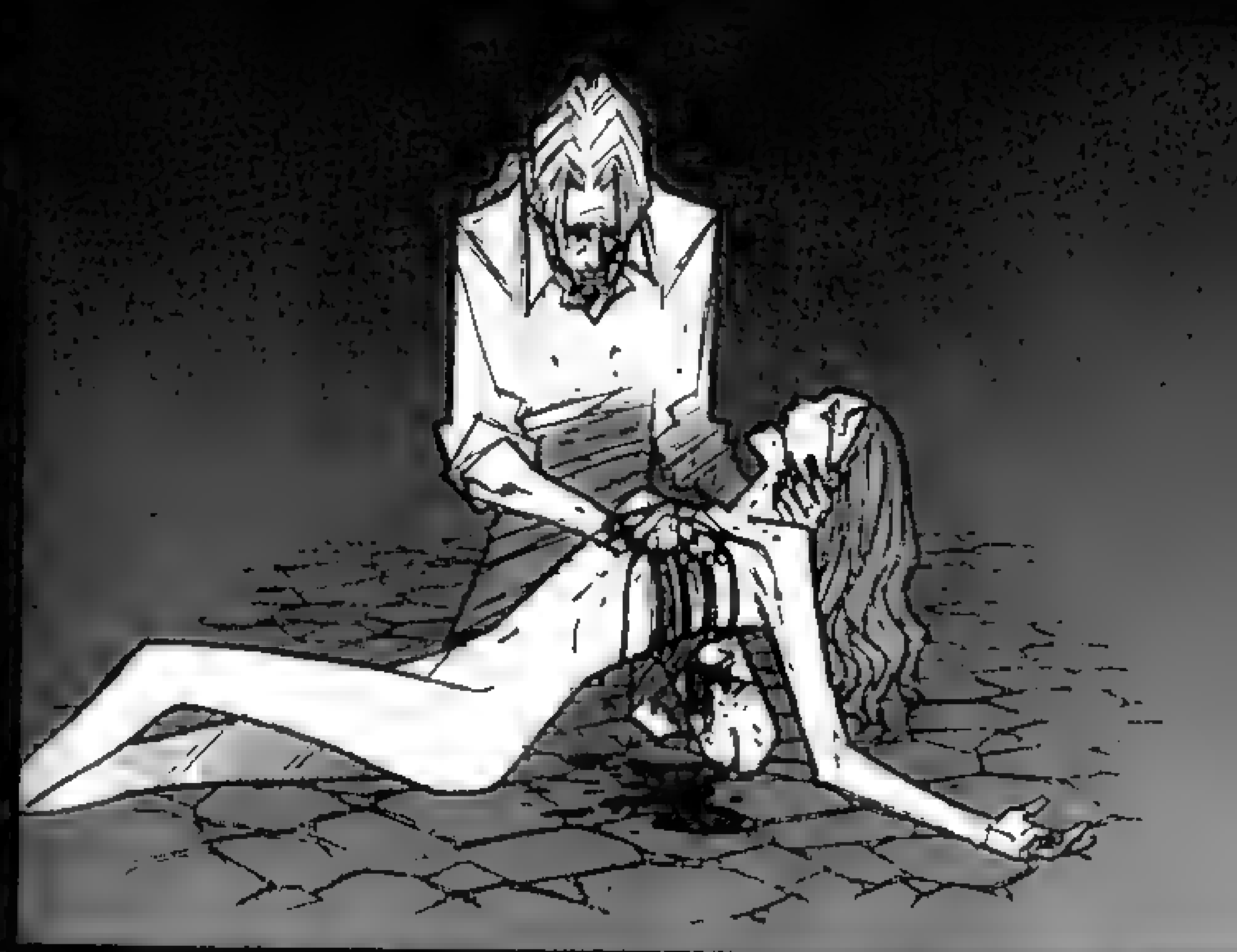
ENJOY!!!!



KLUNK



KLUNK



WHERE ARE YOU?

GASP



GASP





DEAR LORD,



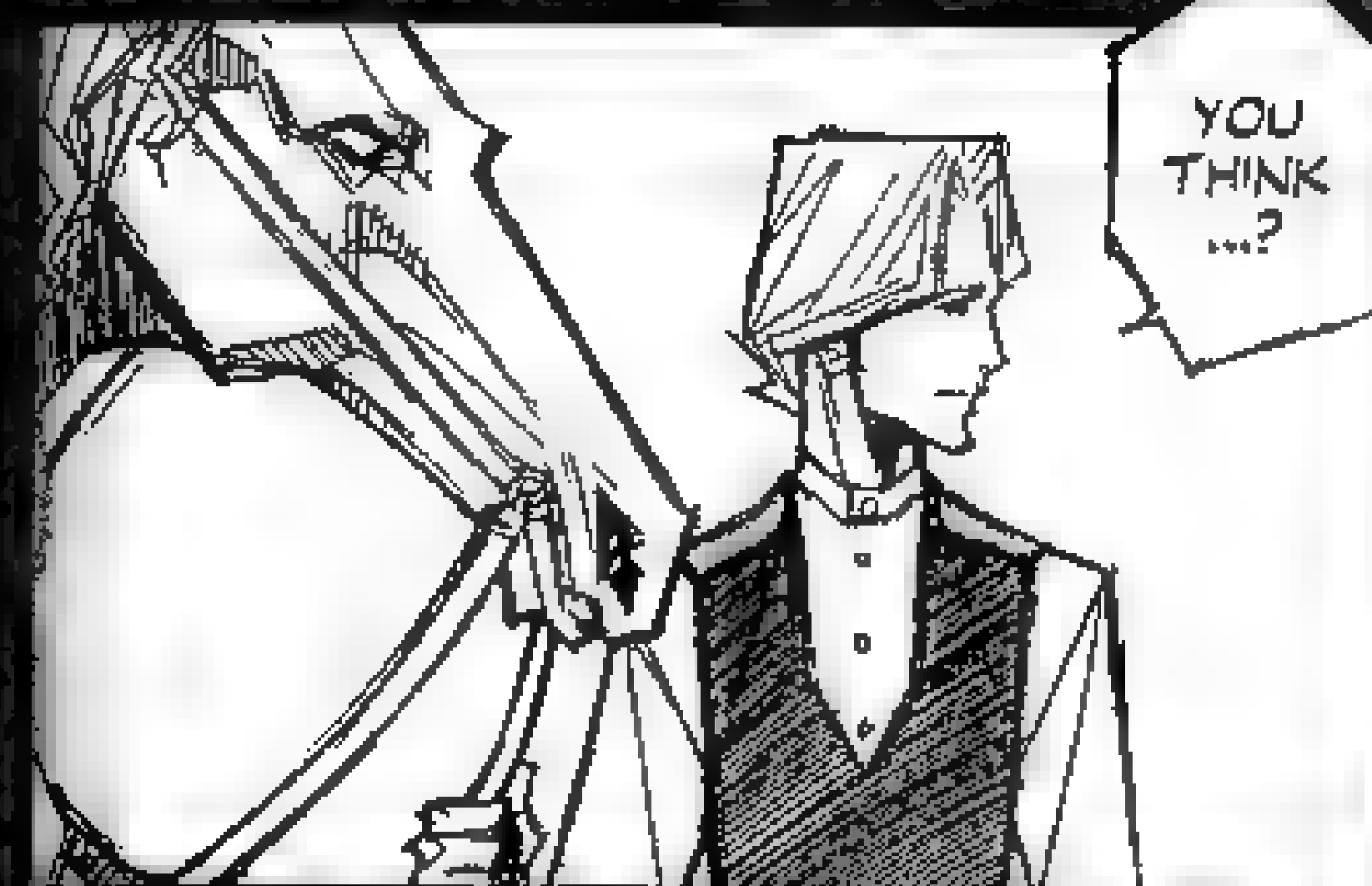
WHY AREN'T YOU
WITH ME??



IVAN...

...WHEN
I DIE...

...I
WOULD
LIKE TO
DIE IN
YOUR
ARMS.



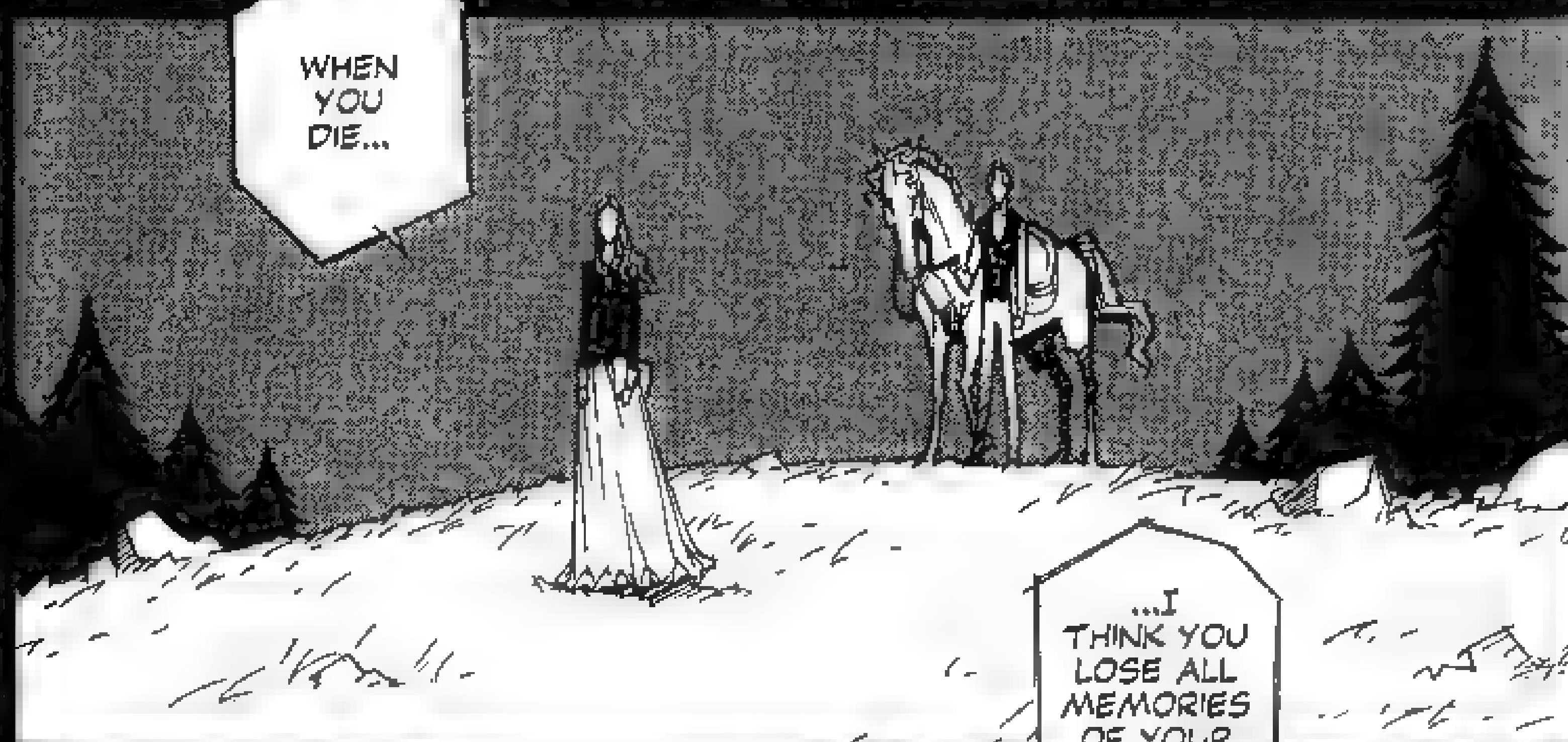
YOU
THINK
...?



BUT
...



WHAT
?



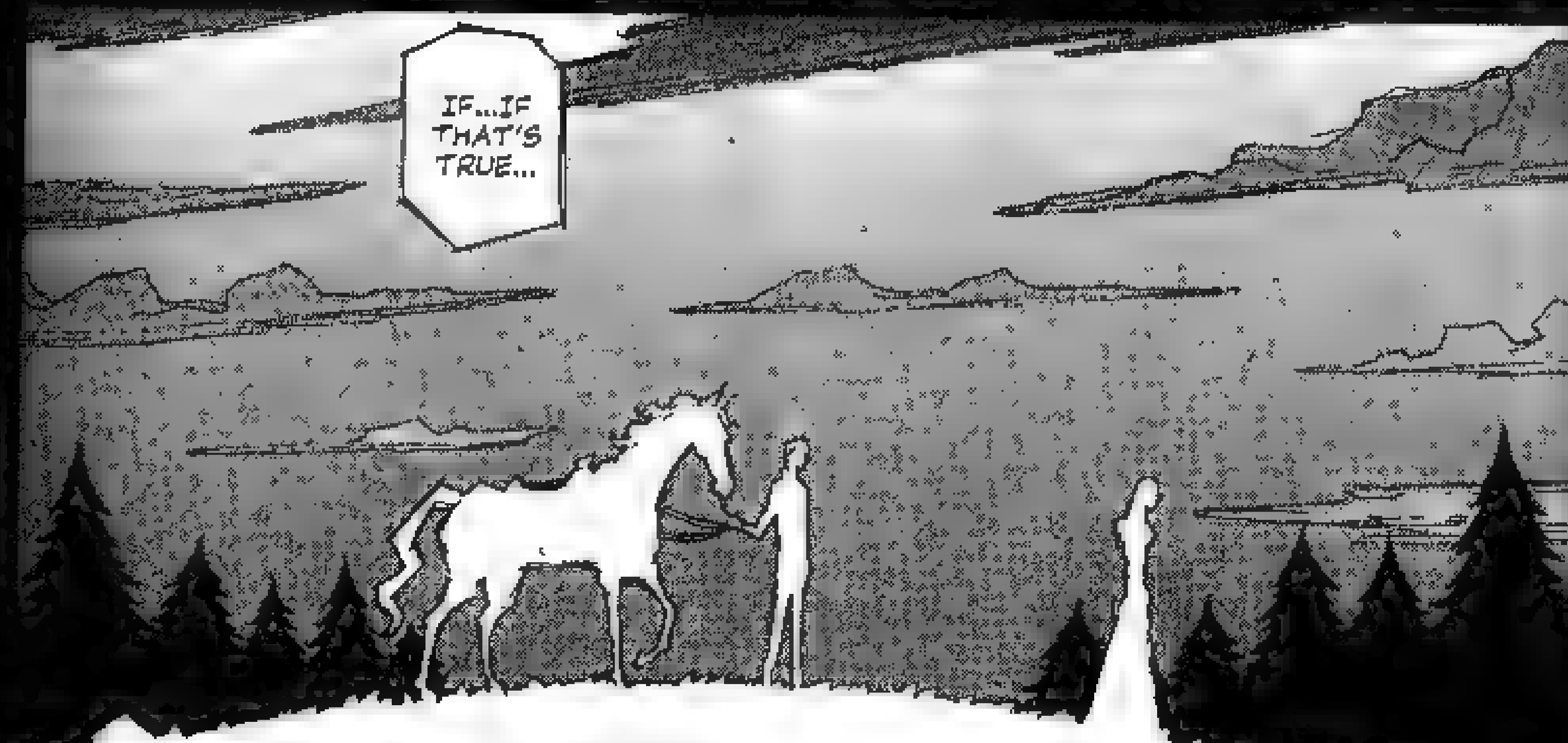
WHEN
YOU
DIE...

...I
THINK YOU
LOSE ALL
MEMORIES
OF YOUR
LIFE.



...I BELIEVE
THAT THE
IMAGE OF
THE LAST
PERSON YOU
SEE...

...WILL STAY
WITH YOU
FOREVER.



IF...IF
THAT'S
TRUE...

...WHEN
I DIE...





WHY...



WHY, LORD??



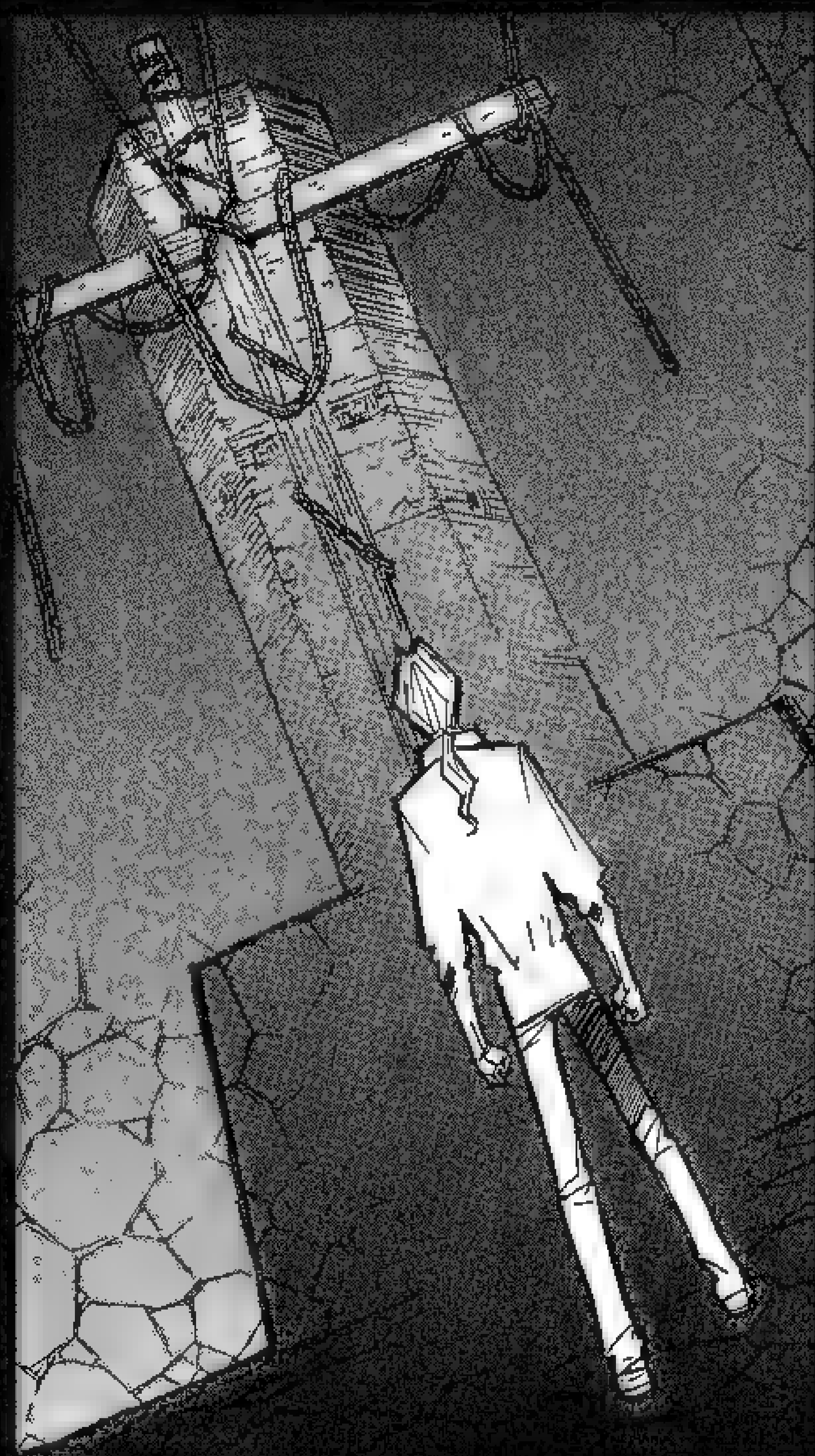


GOD'S...



...WILL?

ALL THIS...



IS GOD'S
DOING?!



M 4-88

PRIEST

SIRHC-2004.01.26

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ENJOY!!!!

WHAT



...DOES GOD
WANT FROM
ME?

AFTER
GENA'S
DEATH



ALL OF MY
RESERVATIONS
DISAPPEARED

SADNESS



ANGER



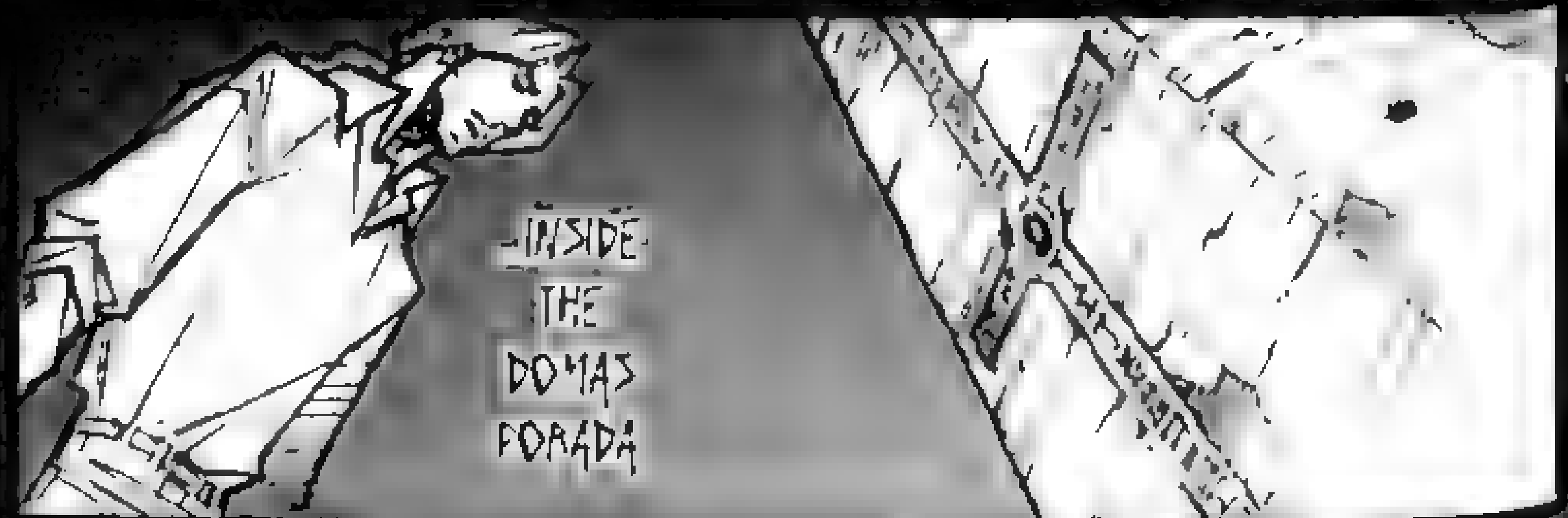
THE ONLY
THING
I HAD LEFT



WAS A
QUESTION
FOR GOD

WHAT WAS HIS
REASON FOR
PUTTING ME
THROUGH THIS
HELL?

AND I KNEW THAT
THE ANSWER TO
THAT QUESTION
COULD ONLY BE



INSIDE
THE
DOMAS
FORADA

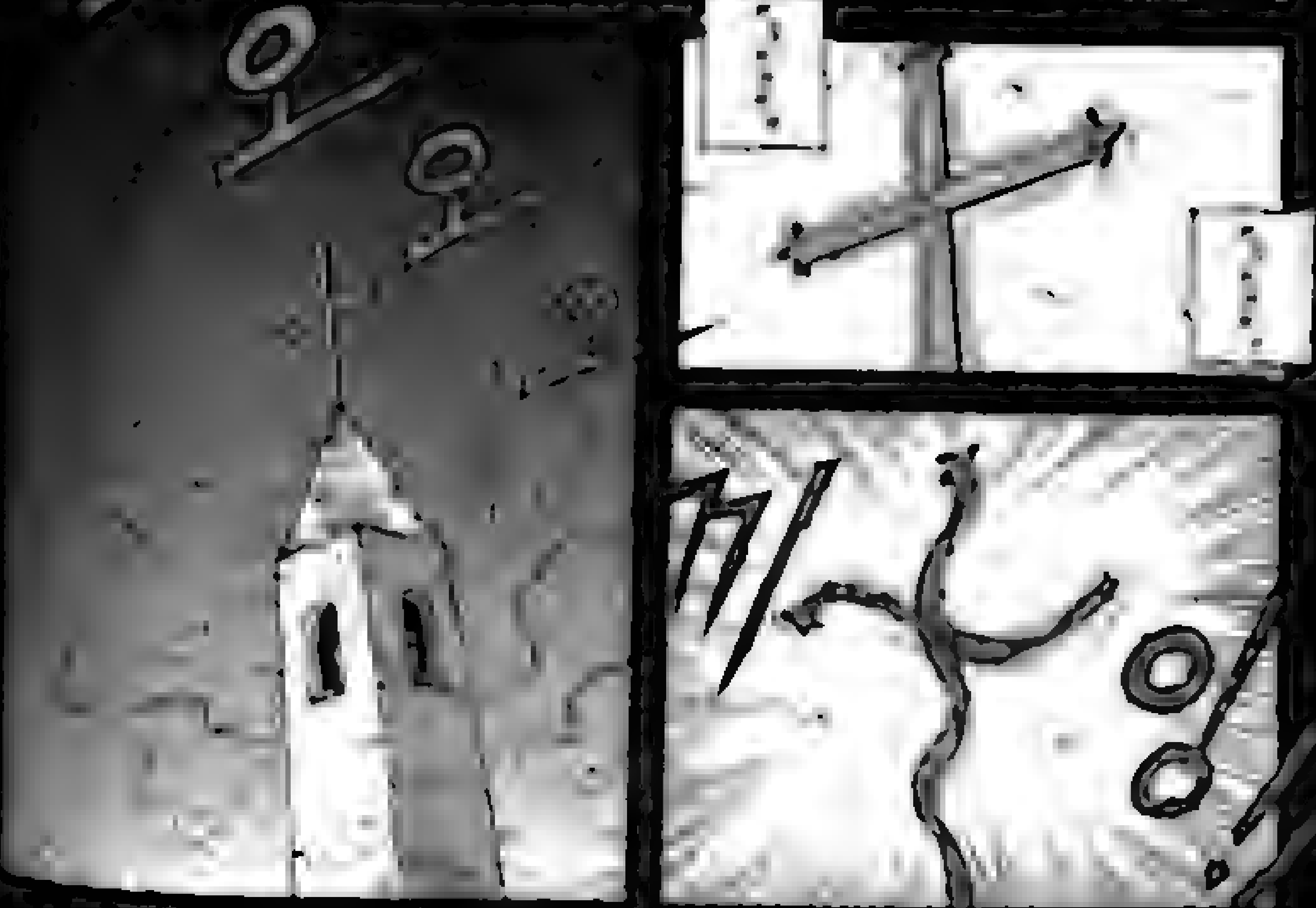


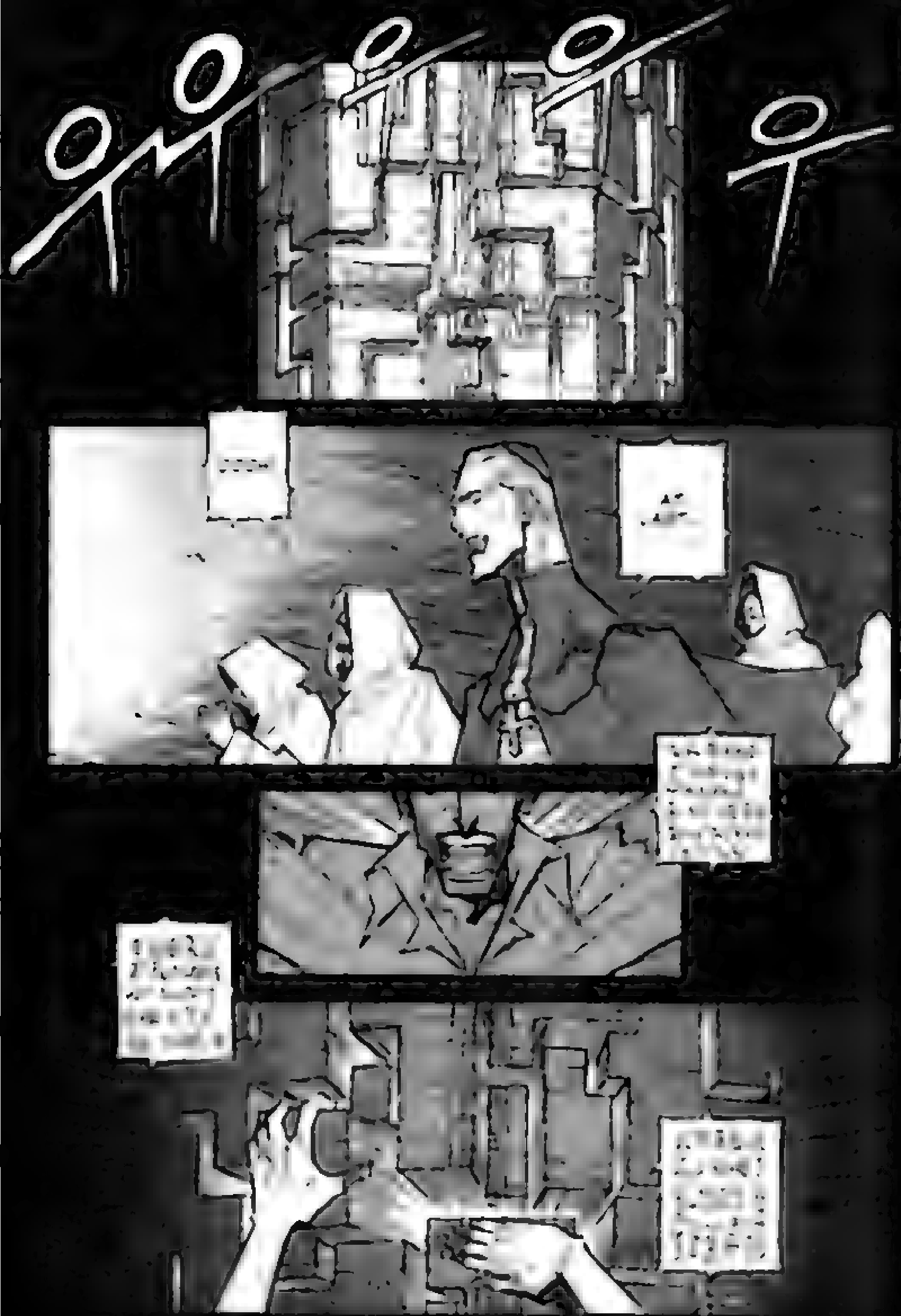
THE
ANSWER
TO
THAT
QUESTION
COULD
ONLY
BE

THE
ANSWER
TO
THAT
QUESTION
COULD
ONLY
BE

THE
ANSWER
TO
THAT
QUESTION
COULD
ONLY
BE

THE
ANSWER
TO
THAT
QUESTION
COULD
ONLY
BE





RENE
WENT
THE
END
IT

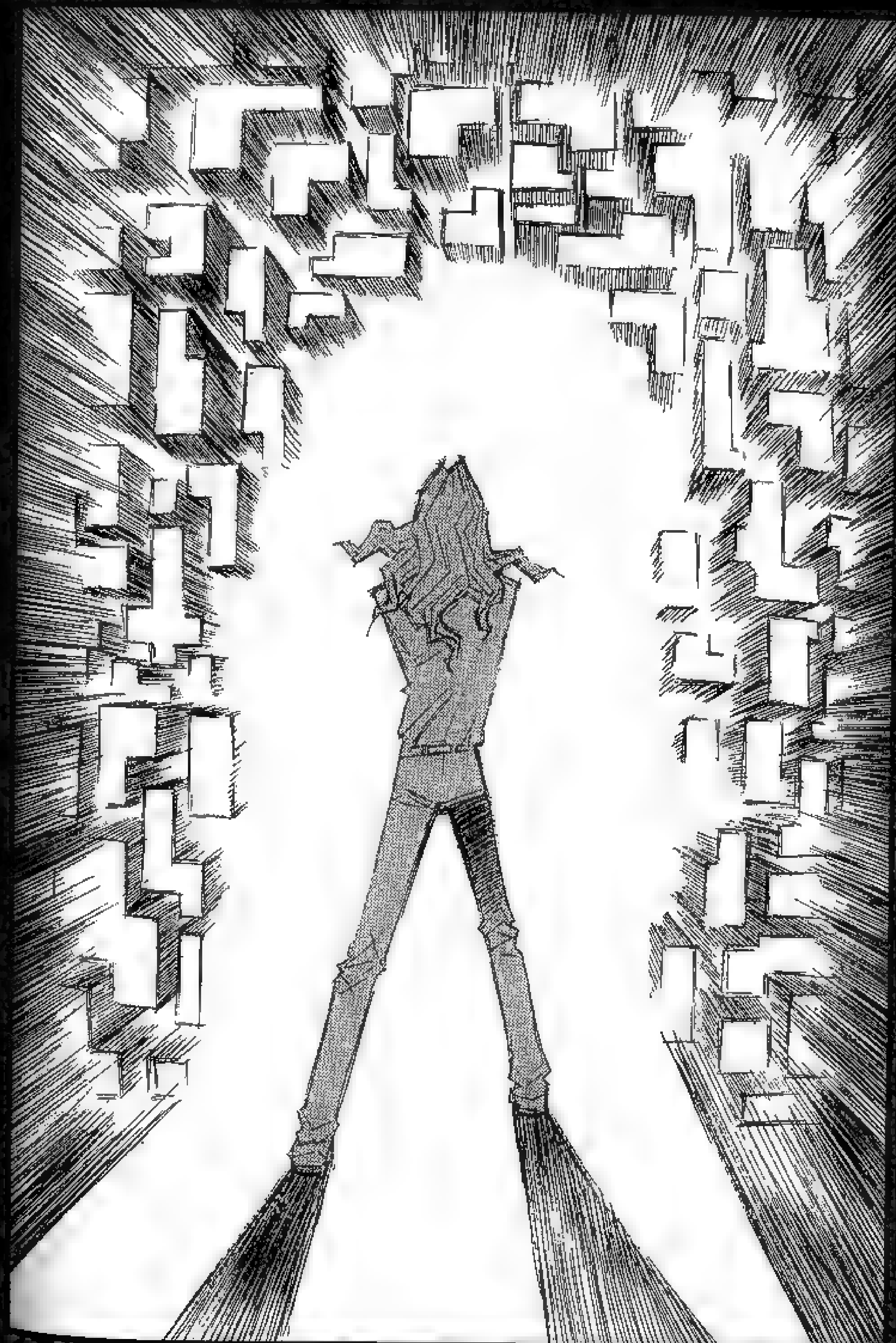
WE
THE
THE
THE
THE
THE

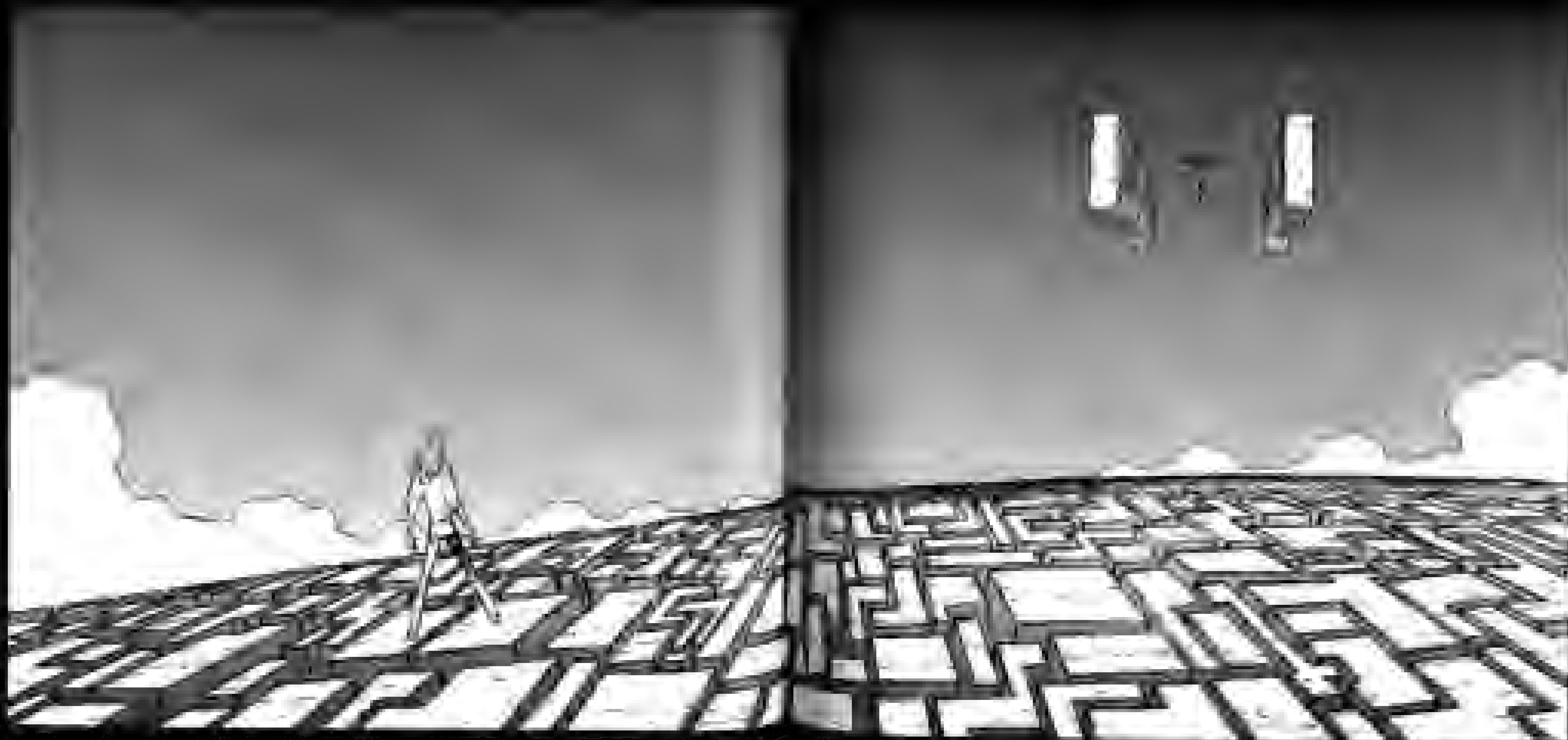
ANGEL OF
CONDEMNATION,
DESCENDED
FROM HEAVEN...

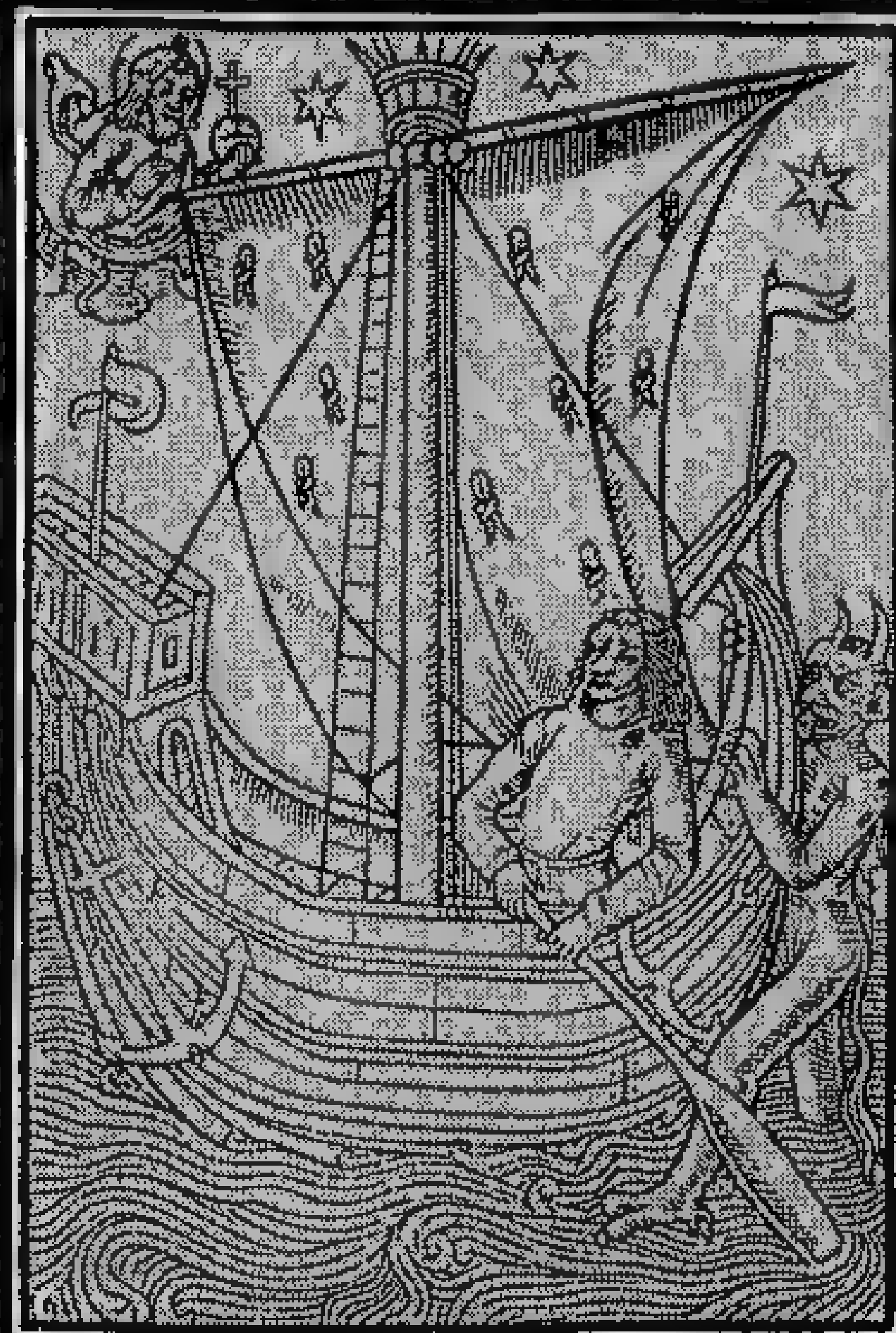
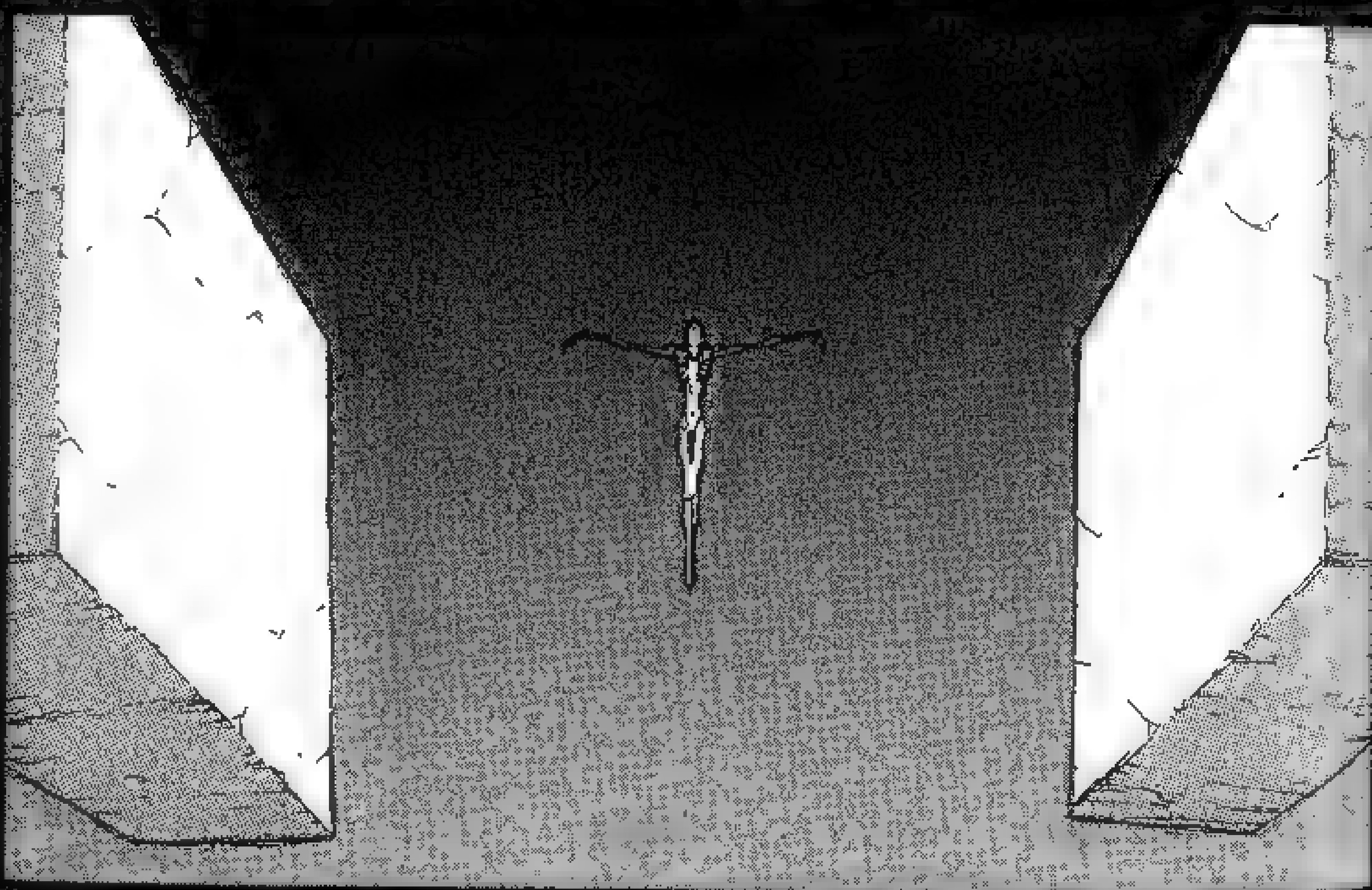
...SHOW US THE
NEW DOGMA SO
THAT WE MAY
RECREATE THE
EARTH ACCORDING
TO YOUR WILL!

THE
THE
THE
THE
THE

THE
THE
THE
THE
THE







PRIEST

SIRHC-2004.01.26

SYNOPSIS:

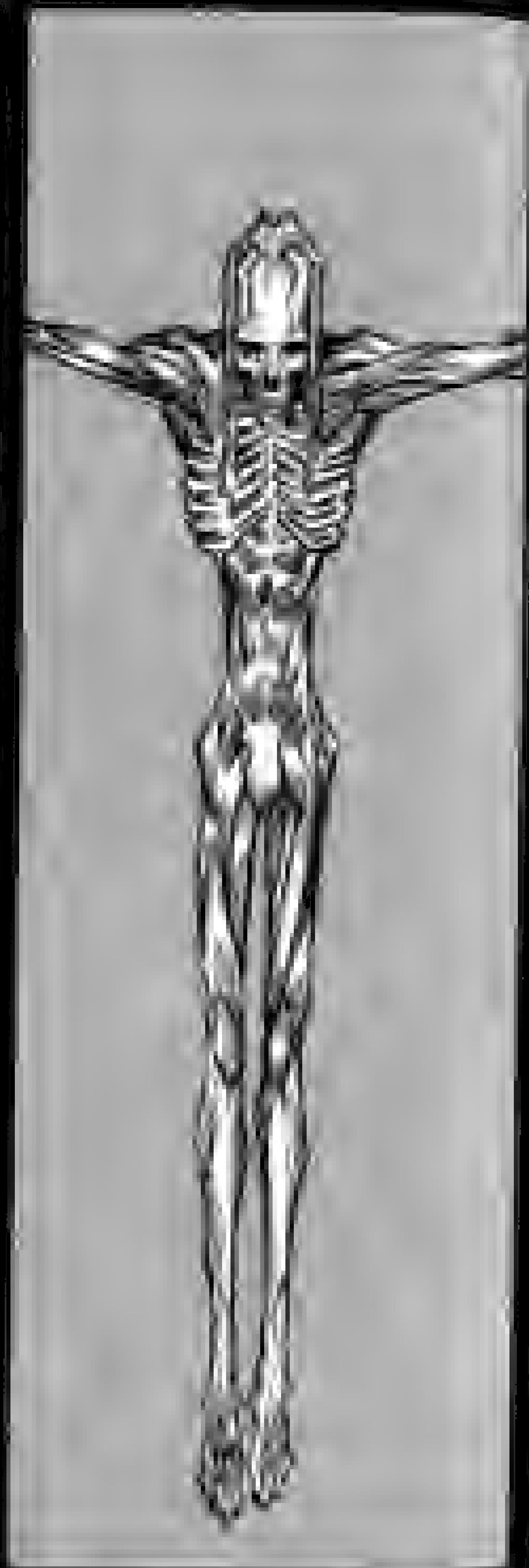
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ENJOY!!!!



Panel 1 (Top Right): A profile of a woman's head with long hair, looking to the right.

Panel 2 (Middle Right): A small icon of a person in a boat, with text to its right: "DAN DUNN... YOU SCOTCH ARE BEING ONE OF THE OTHERS OF HAD."

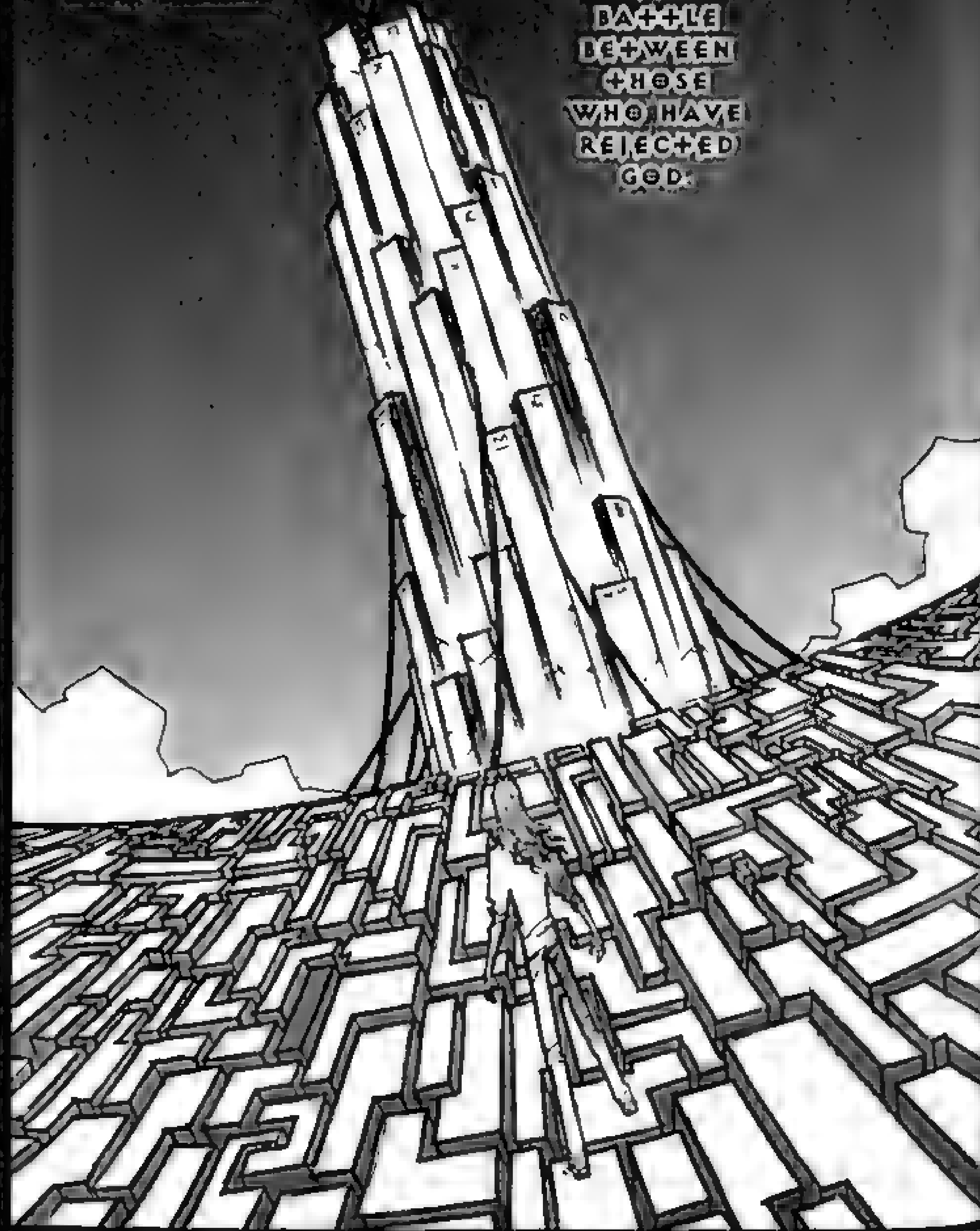
Panel 3 (Bottom Left): Text on a white background: "THE JOURNEY OF SUFFERING YOU'RE ABOUT TO BEGIN".

Panel 4 (Bottom Right): Text on a white background: "...WAS BROUGHT ON BY YOUR OWN HAND.".

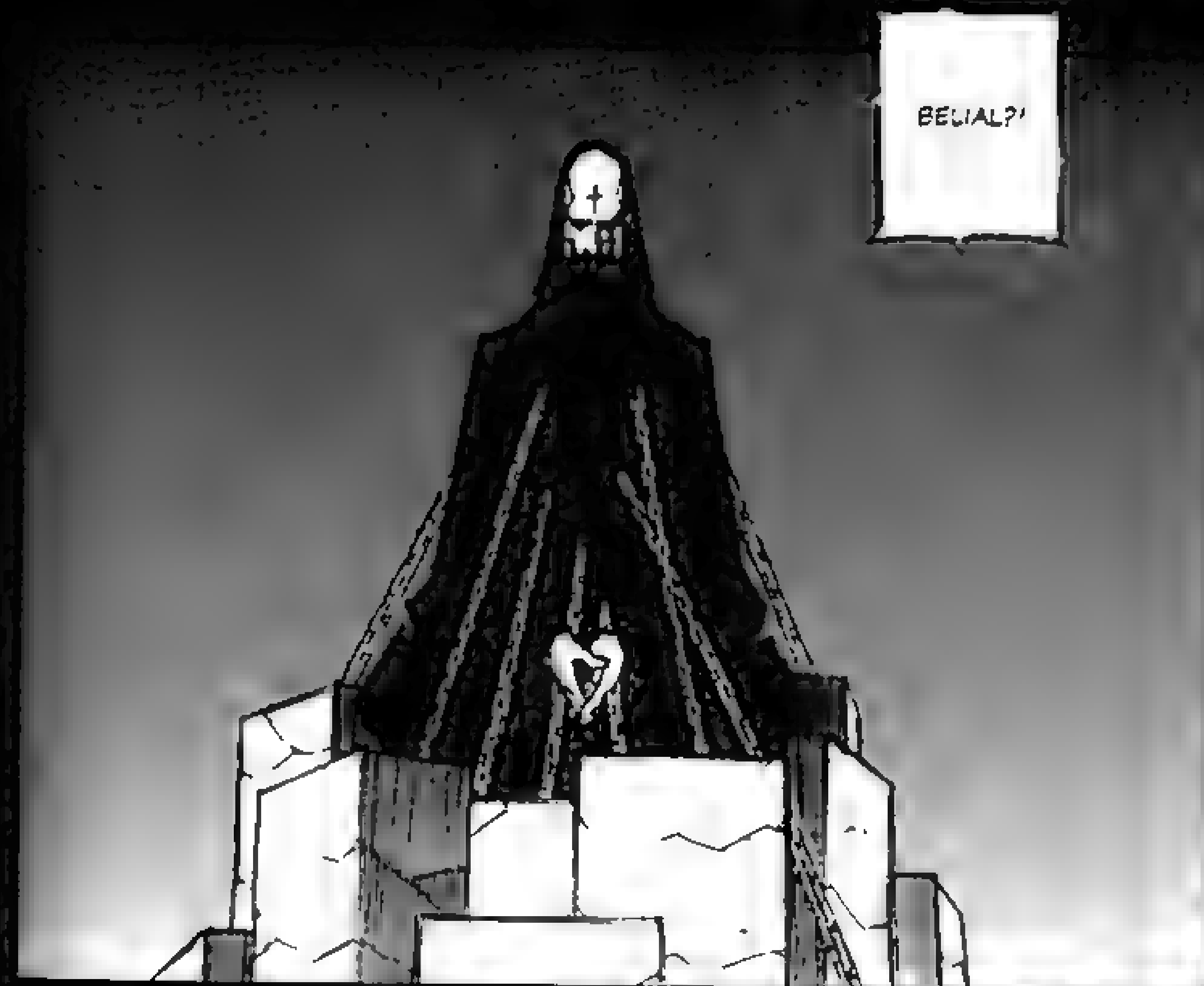
Panel 5 (Bottom Center): A view through a window or doorway showing a person standing in a room with a staircase.

YOU ARE
NOW PART...

...OF THE
BATTLE
BETWEEN
THOSE
WHO HAVE
REJECTED
GOD.



BE LIAL?!



IS
THIS
TRULY
...

...ALL
THE
WILL
OF
GOD?



FORGET
ABOUT
GOD!

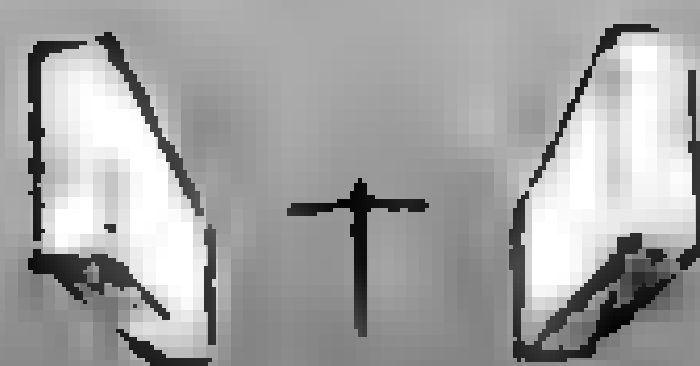
HE DID
NOT
ABANDON
US.

HE WAS
NEVER
WITH US
TO BEGIN
WITH!

HE'LL
ALWAYS
REMAIN A
BYS+ANDER!



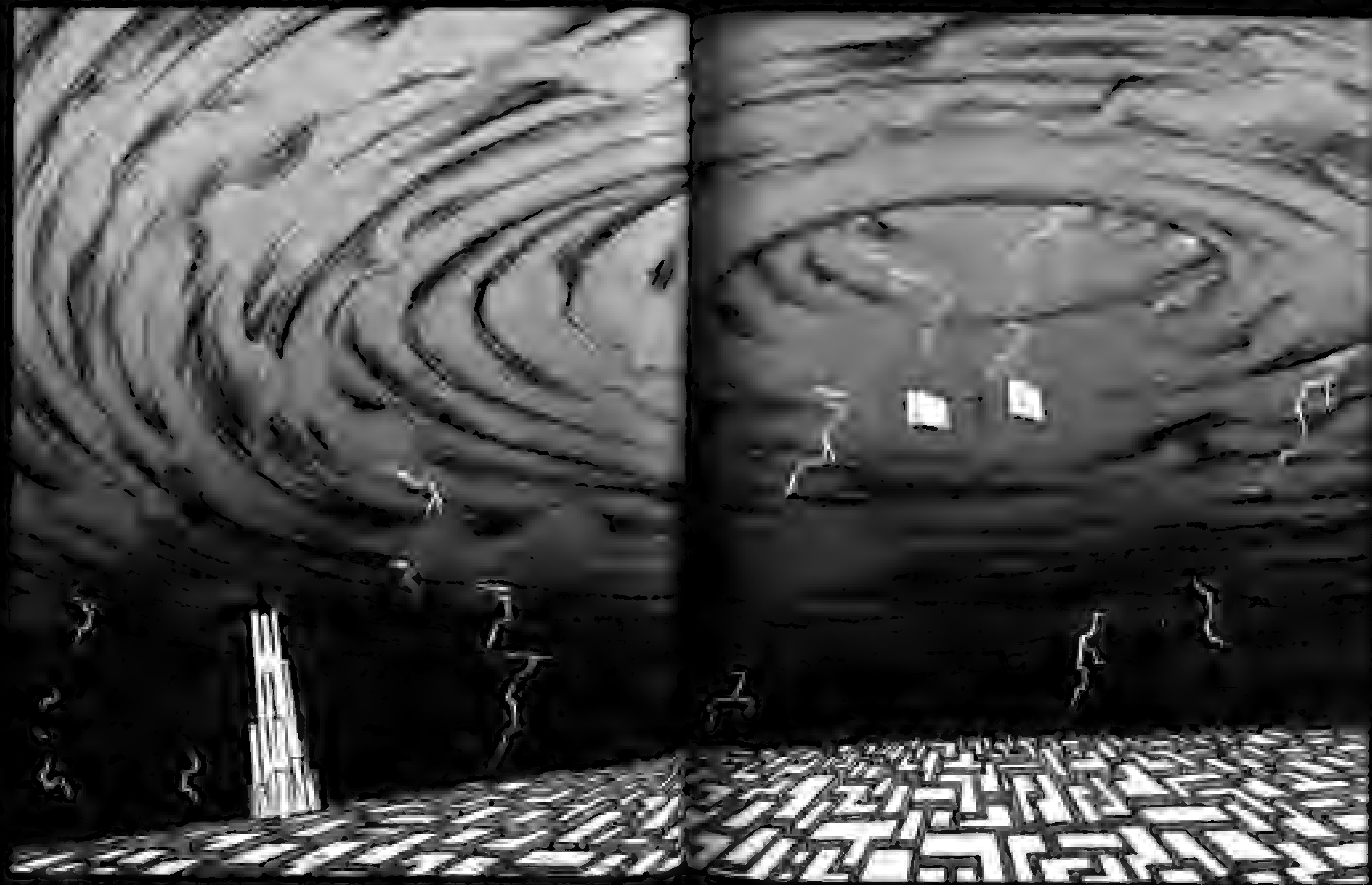
NOW,
PREPARE
TO FACE THE
CONSEQUENCES
OF YOUR ACT!

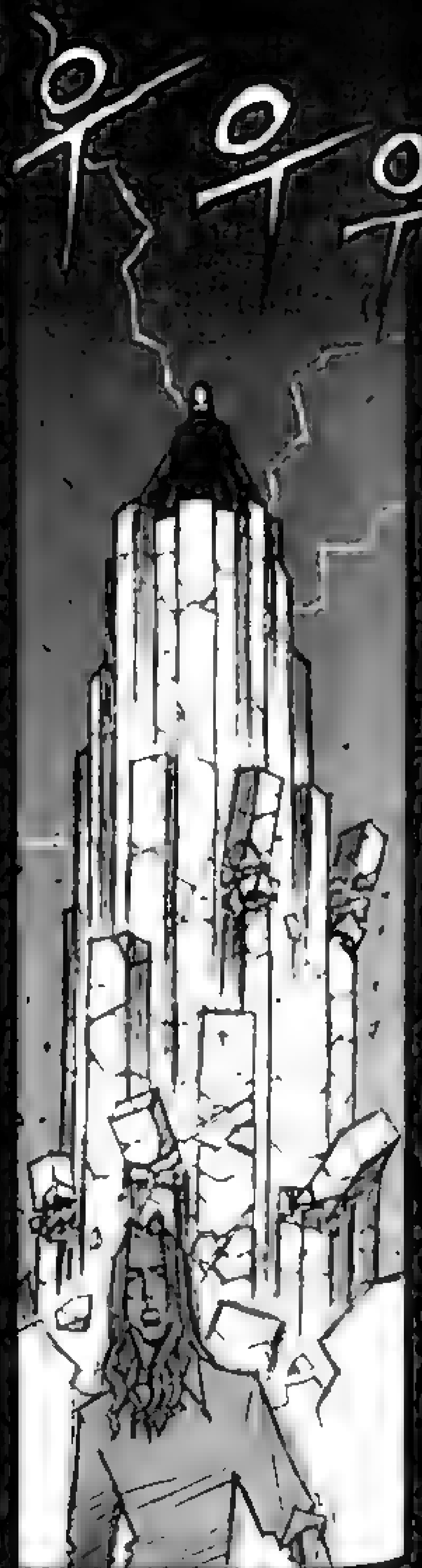


WELL DONE,
YOU WHO HOLD THE SECRETS
OF MY AWAKENING!

!







HEH
HEH
HEH...



DO NOT
GET TOO
EXCITED,
TEMZARELA
!

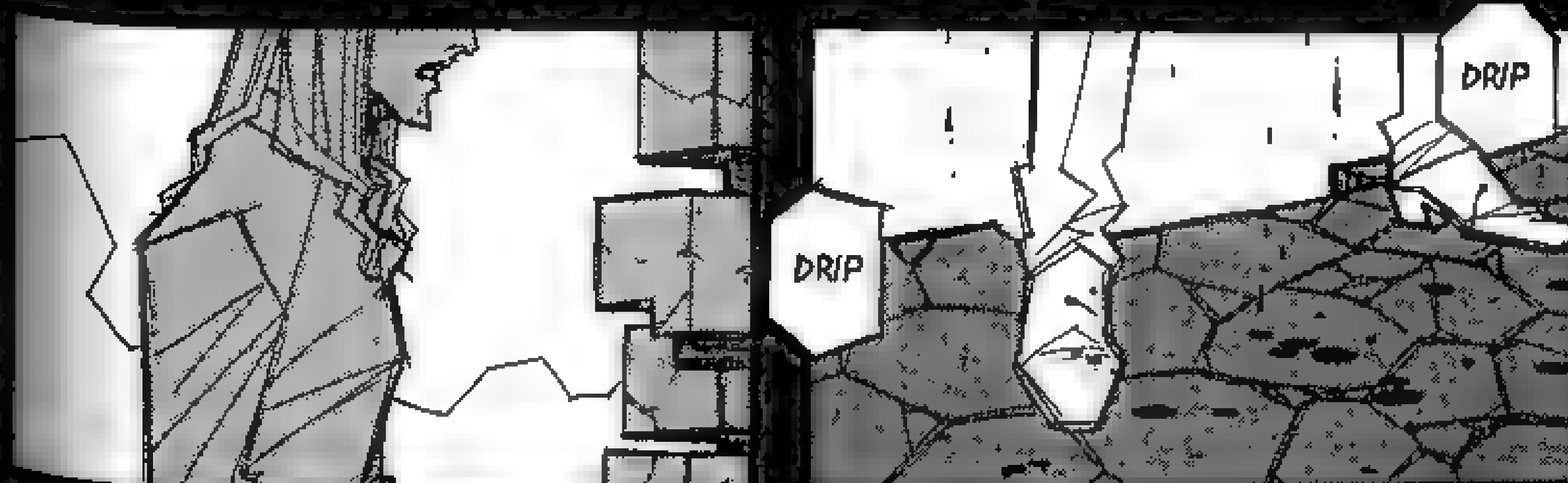
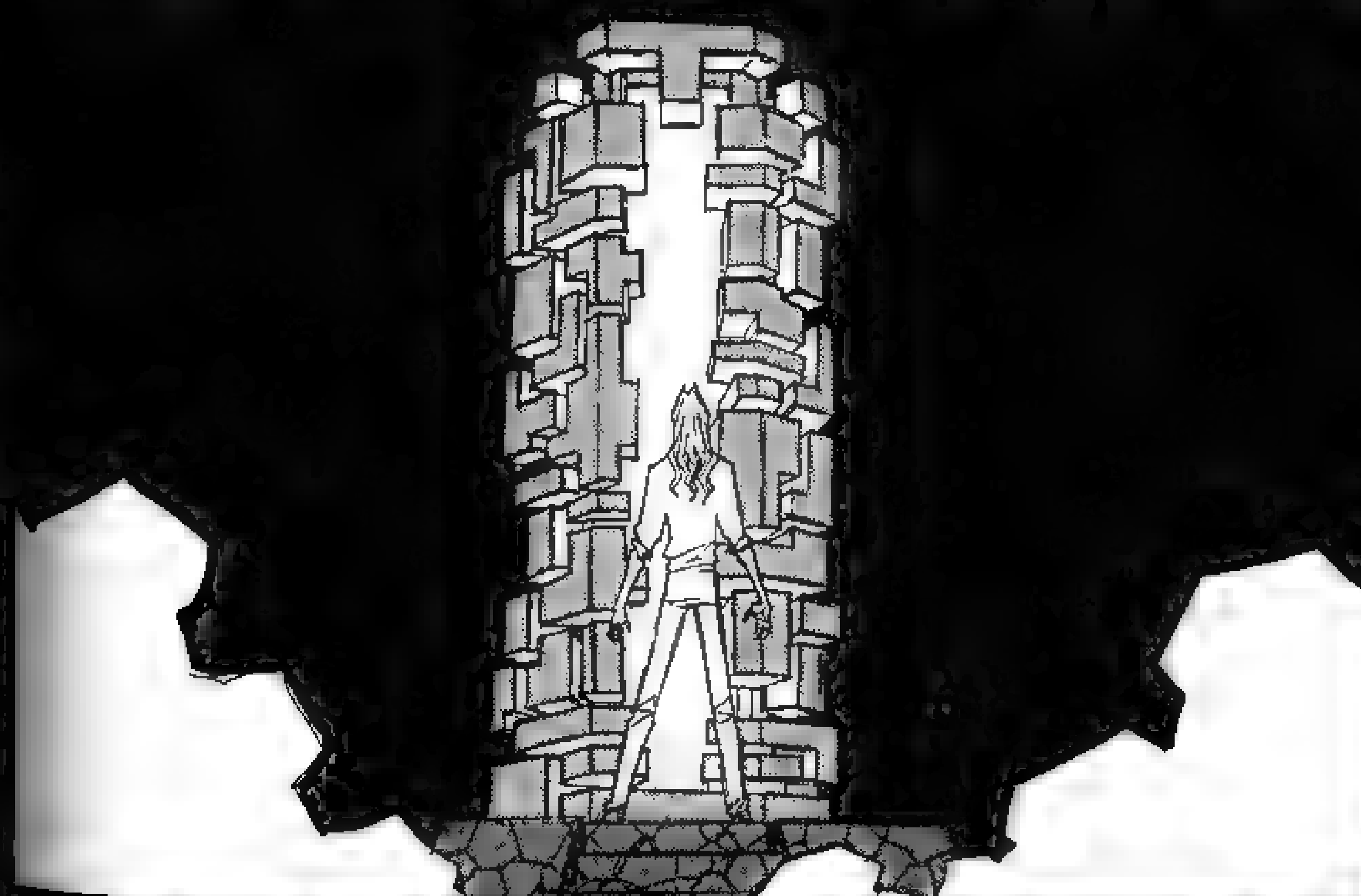


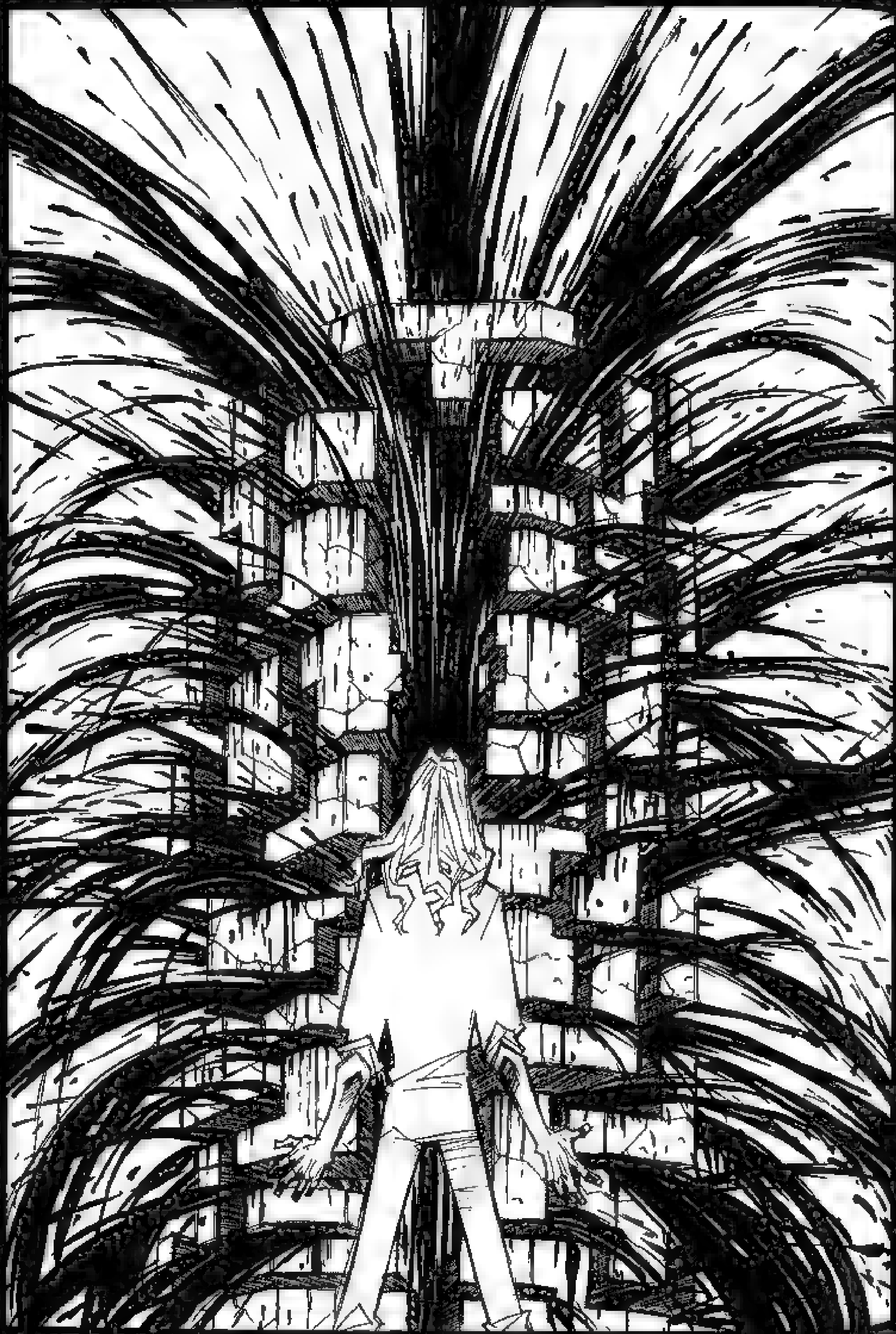
I'VE
BEEN
AWAITING
THIS
DAY.



YOUR
TRUE
PUNISH-
MENT
BEGINS
NOW!

SHUNK





PRIEST

SIRHC-2004.01.26

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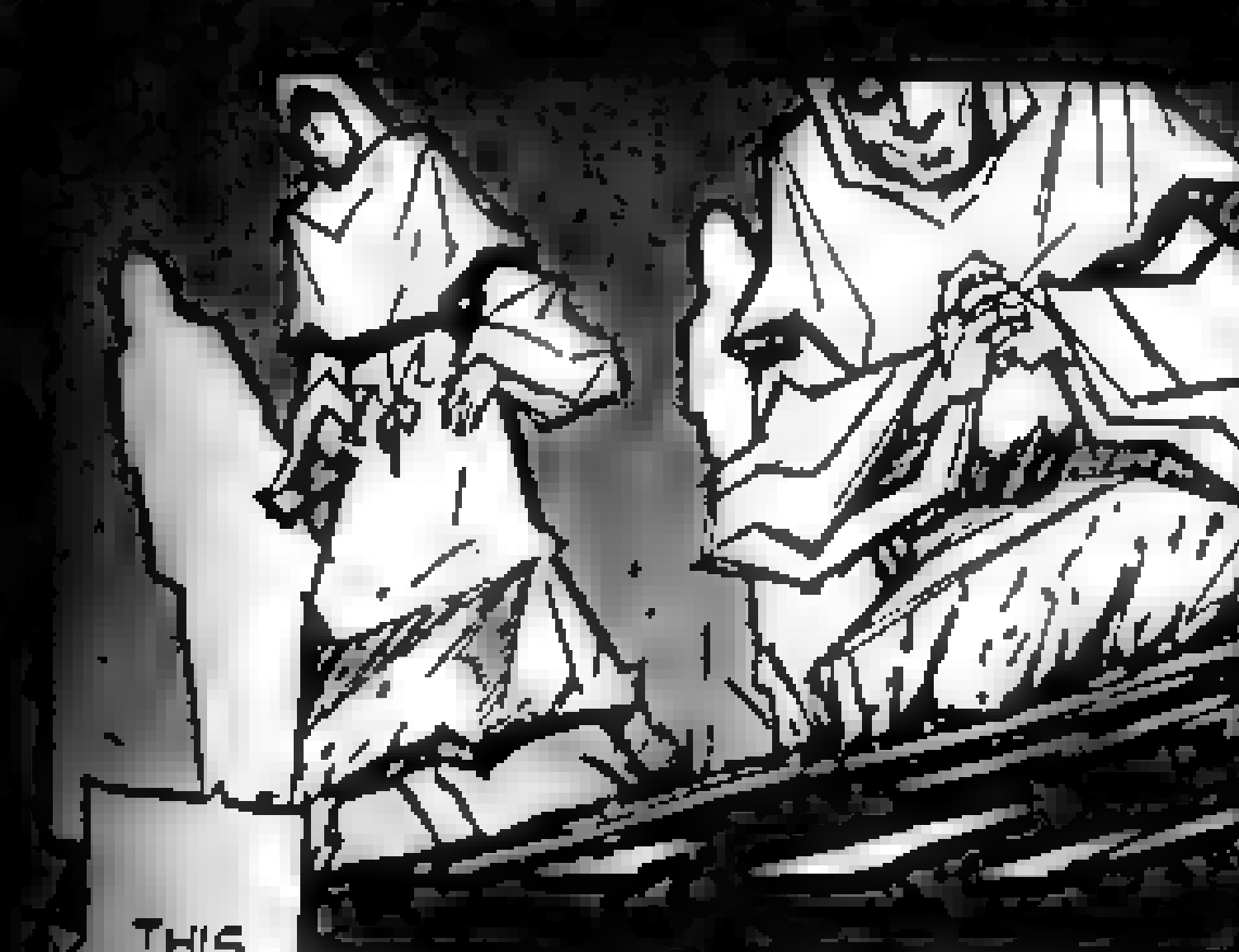
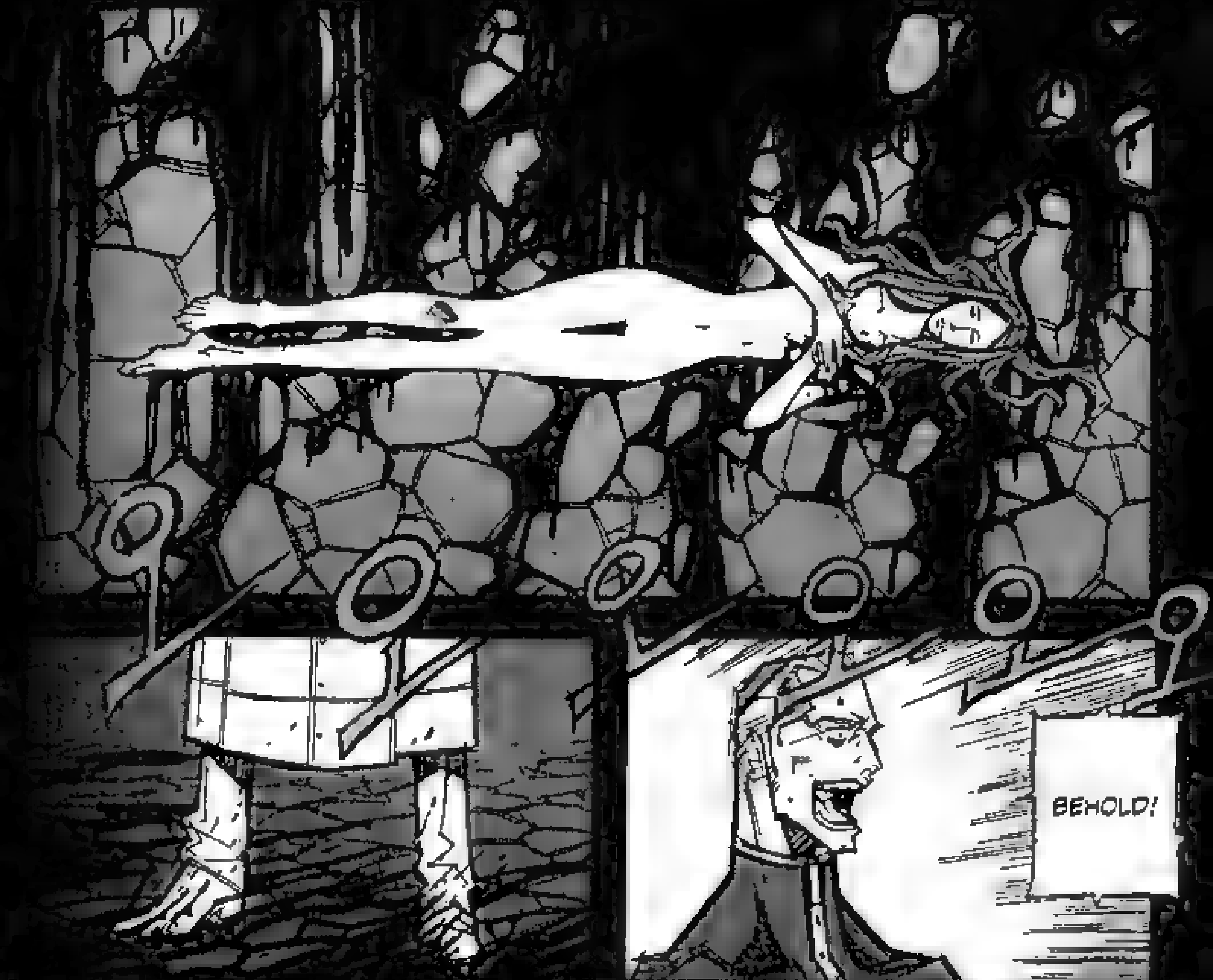
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ENJOY!!!!



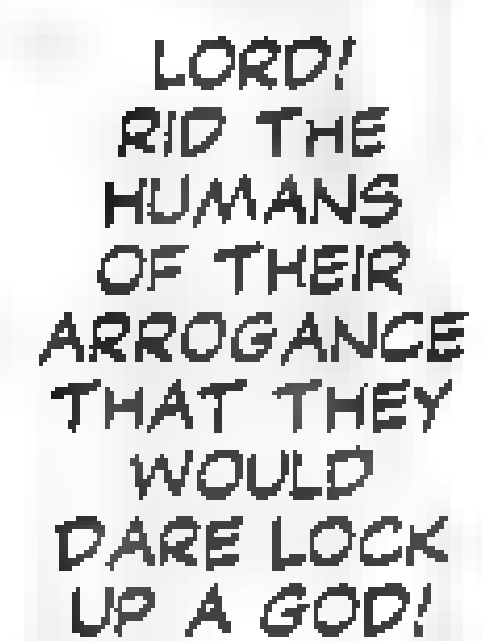
BEHOLD!

THE
WATER
HAS
BROKEN!

IT IS
A SGN
THAT THE
DOMAS
PORADA
IS GIVING
BIRTH TO
OUR NEW
MASTER!

THIS
...

THIS
IS...!



LORD!
RID THE
HUMANS
OF THEIR
ARROGANCE
THAT THEY
WOULD
DARE LOCK
UP A GOD!

IVAN! YOU
STAND IN A
NEW WORLD—
ONE THAT WILL
BE PURIFIED
BY THE LORD
YOU HELPED
RELEASE!

GOD...

THERE'S
NO GOD
HERE.

EVERY-
THING...

...WAS
BY HIS
DESIGN.

HE
PRETENDED
TO BE
GOD...

...TO
CONTROL
YOU...

...AND
USED
YOU...

...TO
CONTROL
ME.

GOD NEVER
PLANNED
FOR THIS
TO HAPPEN.

WE WALKED
INTO THIS
HELL BY
OUR OWN
FREE WILL.



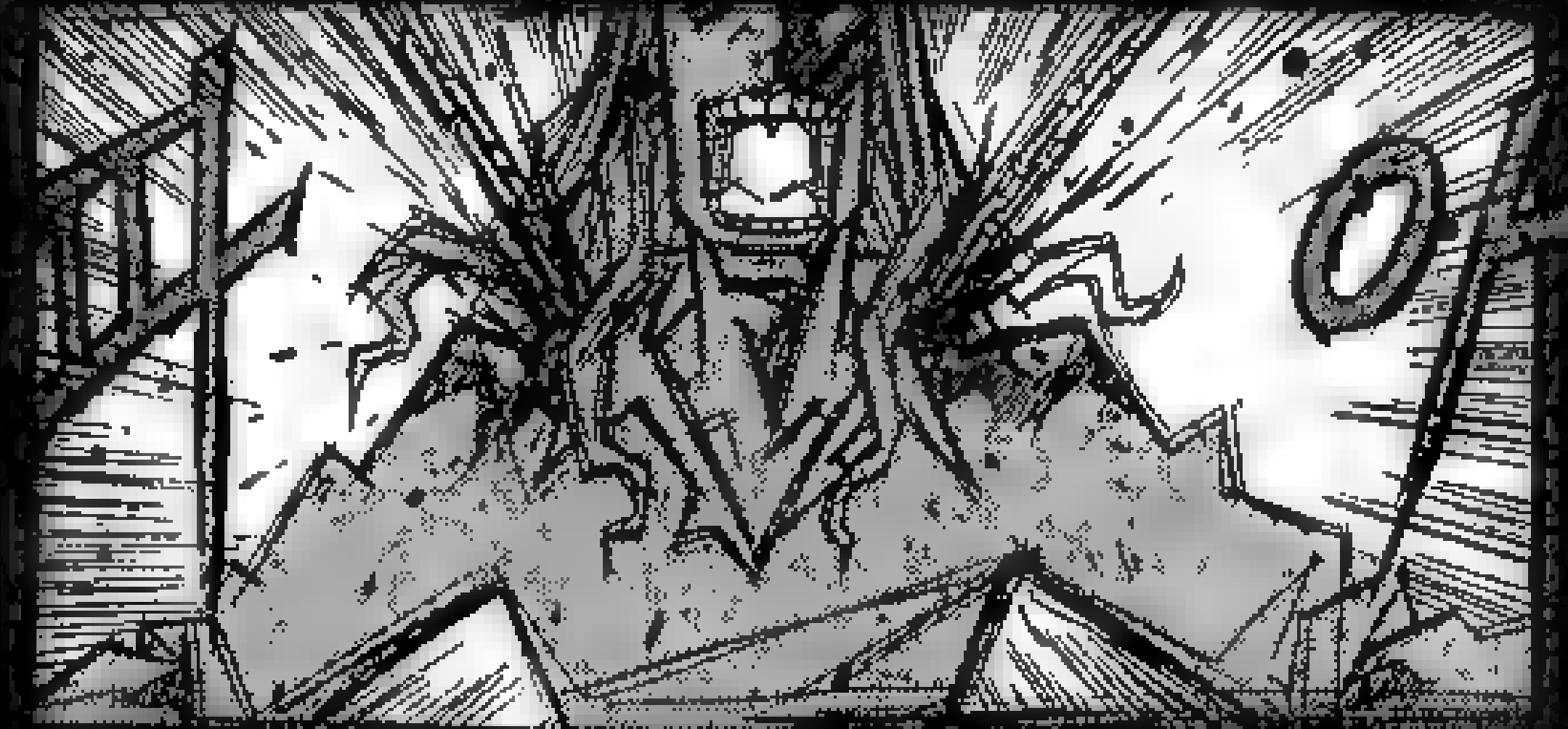
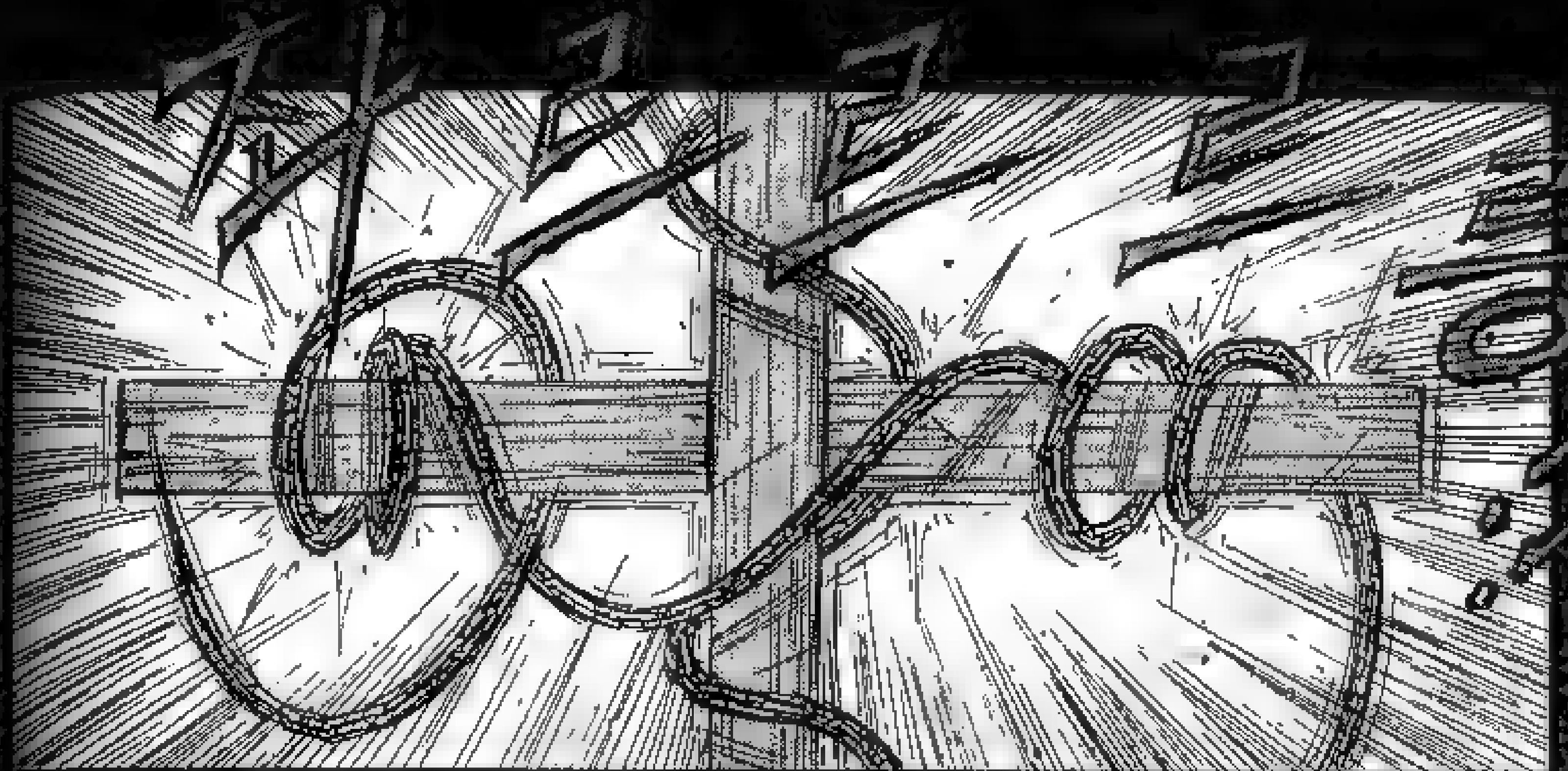
HA...

HA
HA
HA...
IVAN!



WHA-
WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?

SH
WA
K

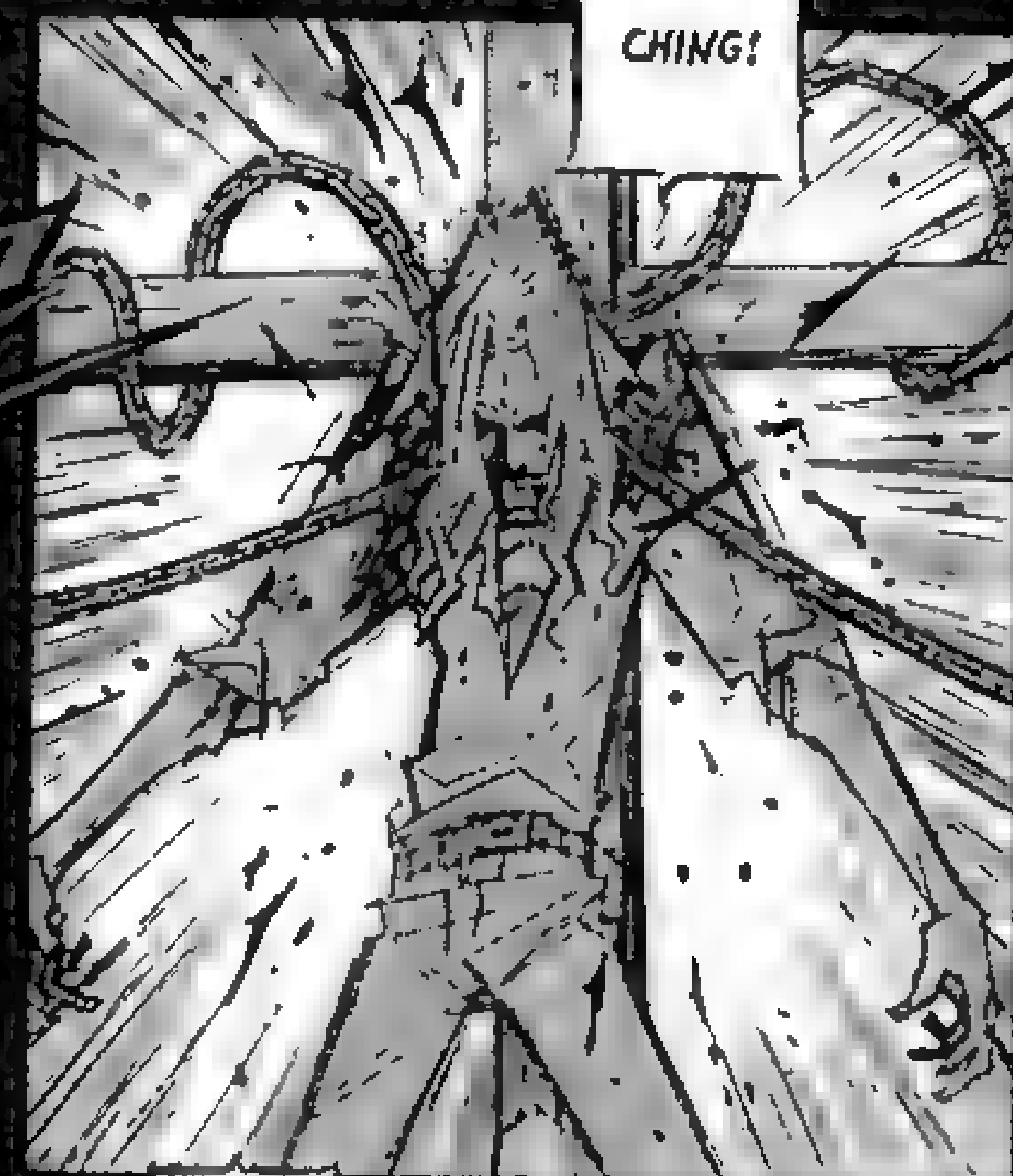
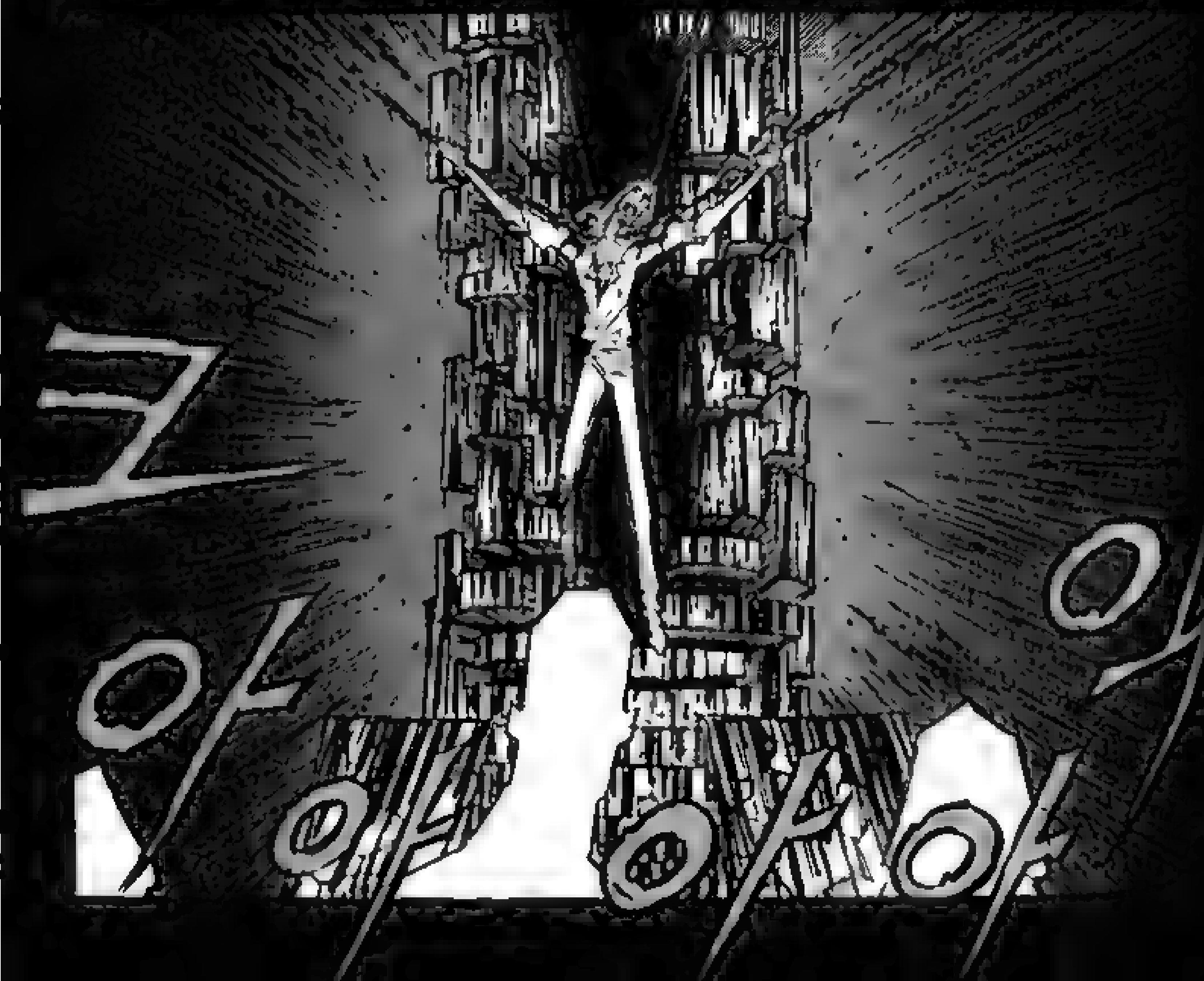


!!



!!



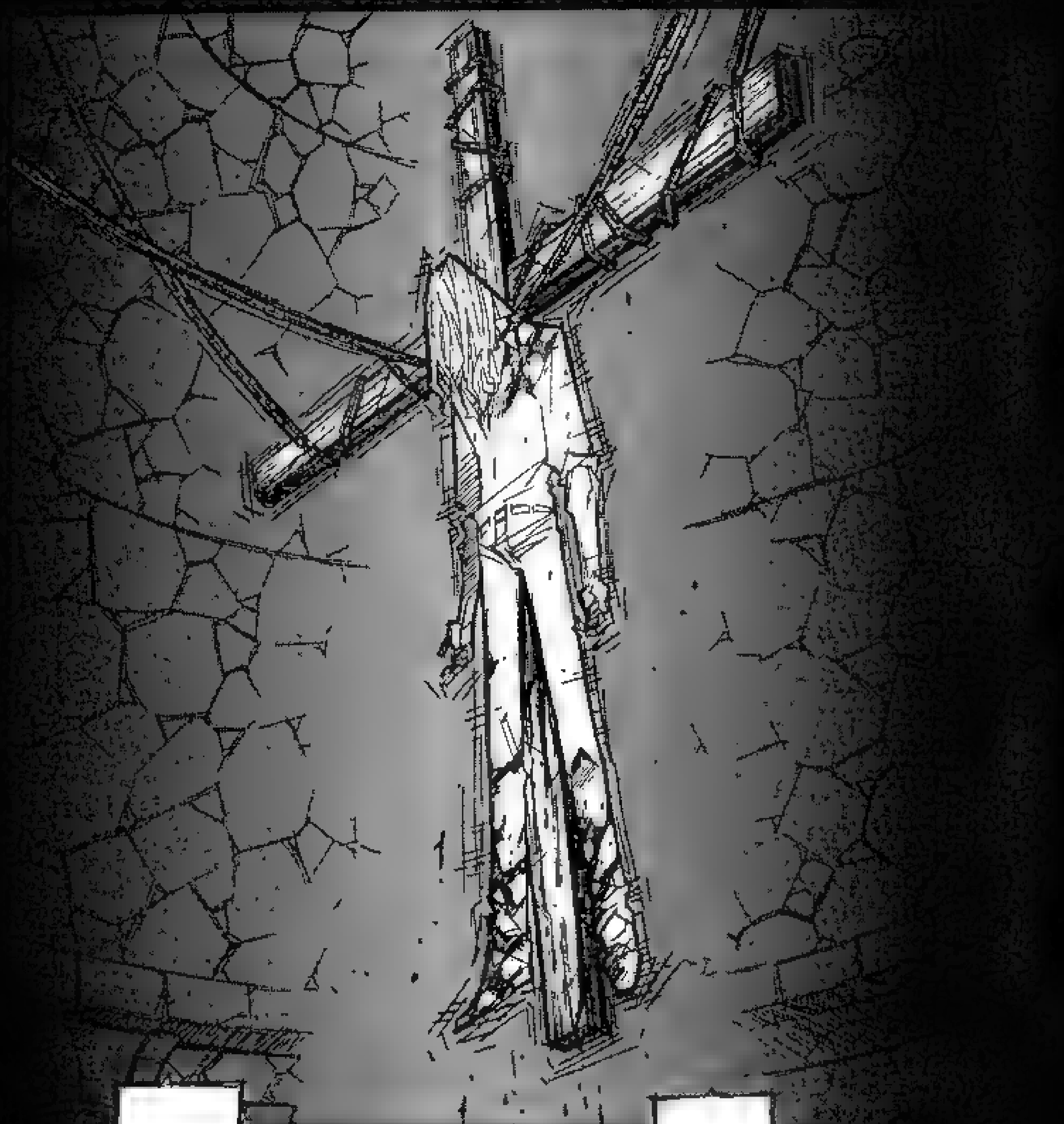


CHING!



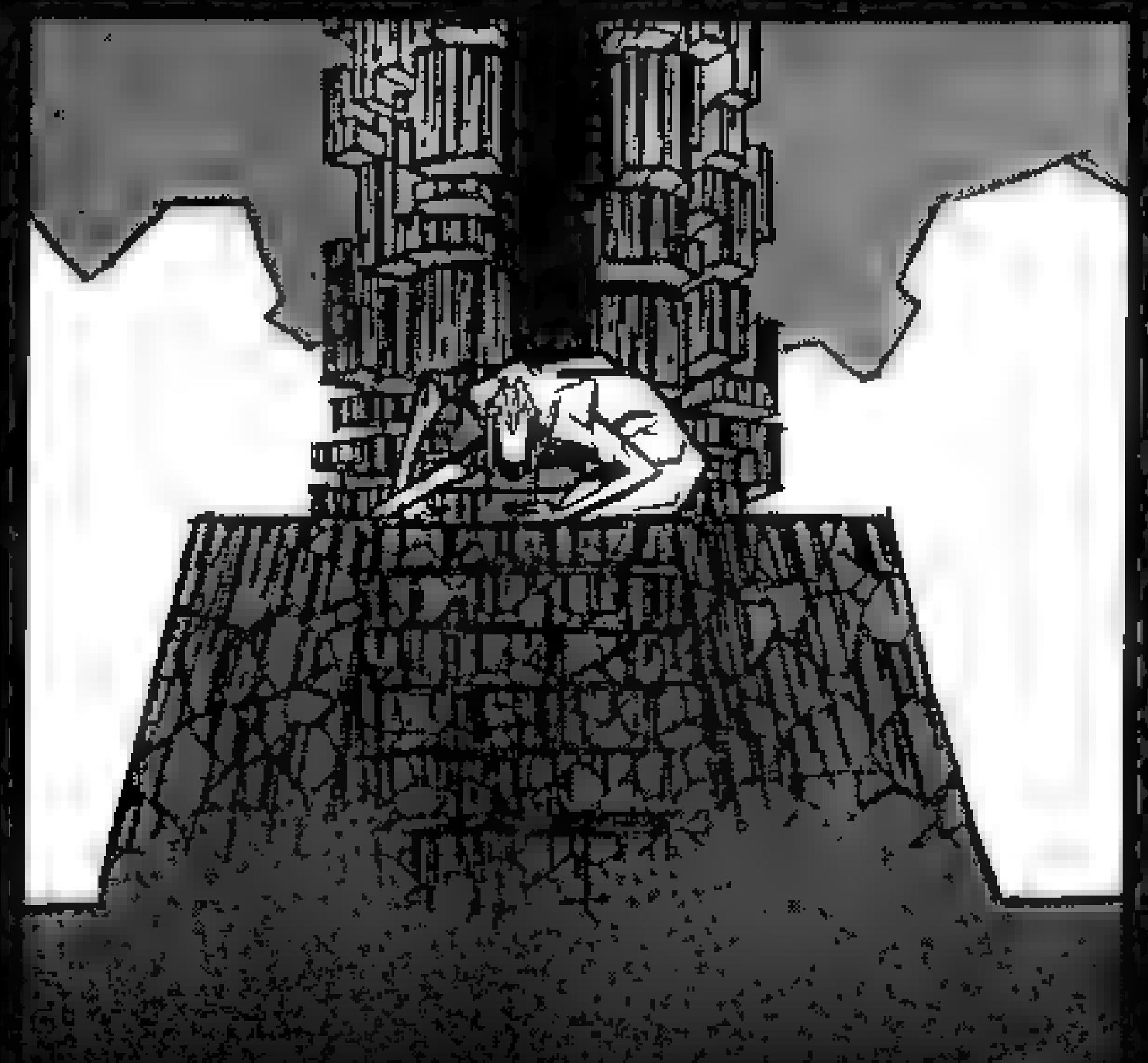
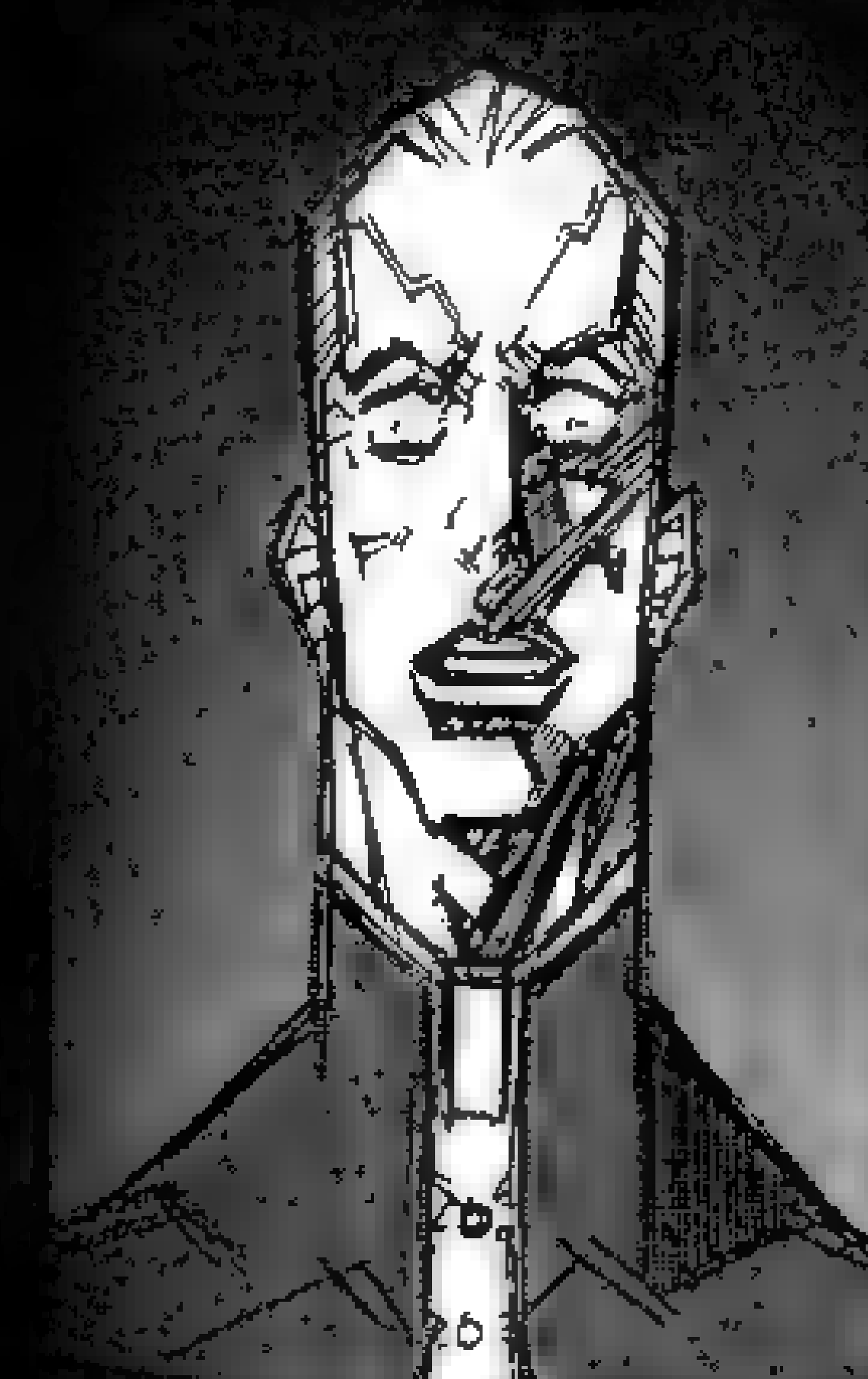
OH
AY...





WHAT...
DID HE
SAY...

...PRETENDED
TO BE
GOD...?





SQUEESH

!!!



PRIEST

SIRHC-2004.01.26

SYNOPSIS:

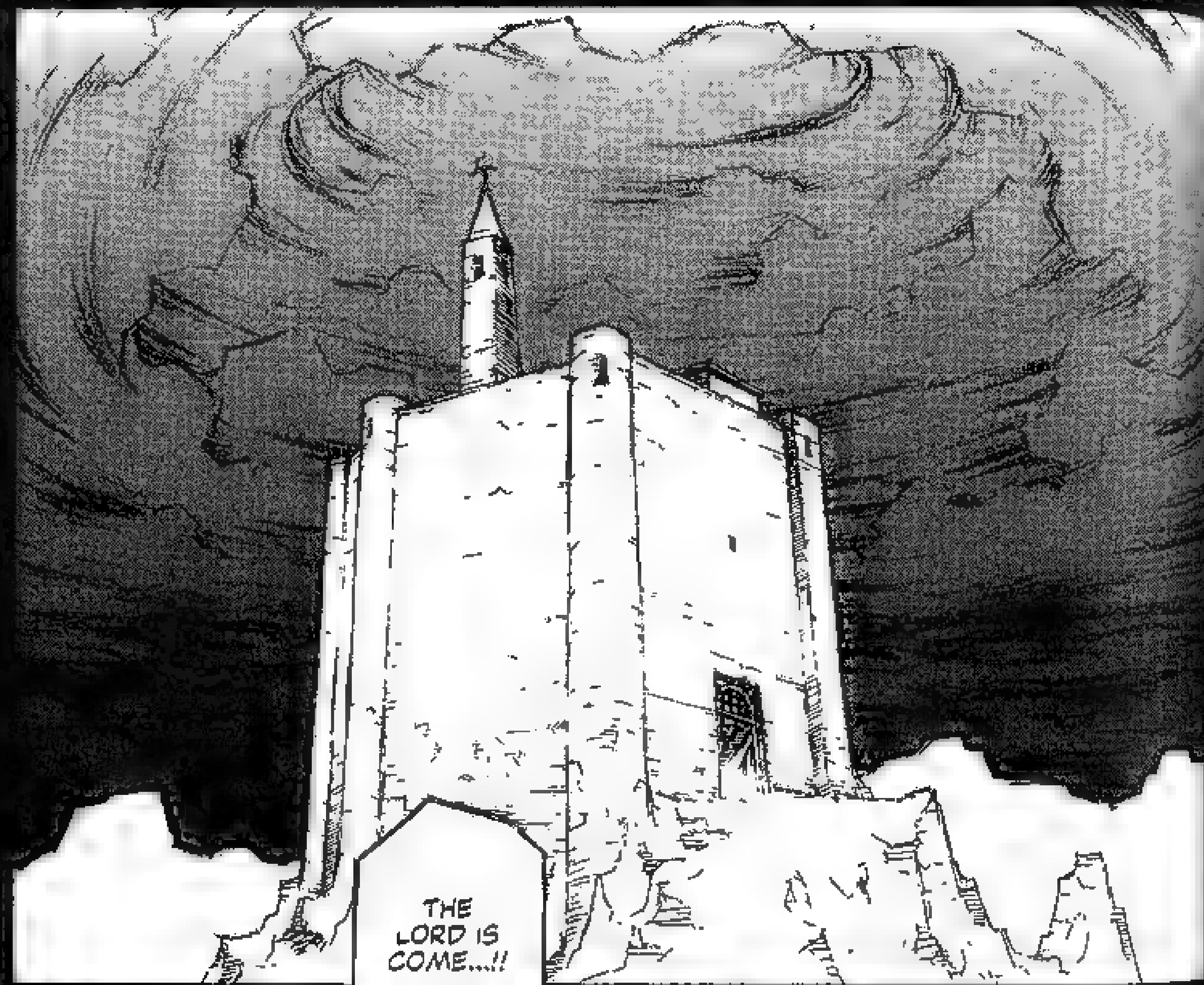
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ENJOY!!!!



THE
LORD IS
COME...!!



JUST
AS HE
SAID IN
MY
DREAMS
...

...HE'S
REBORN
ON THIS
EARTH!

A
FEAST...

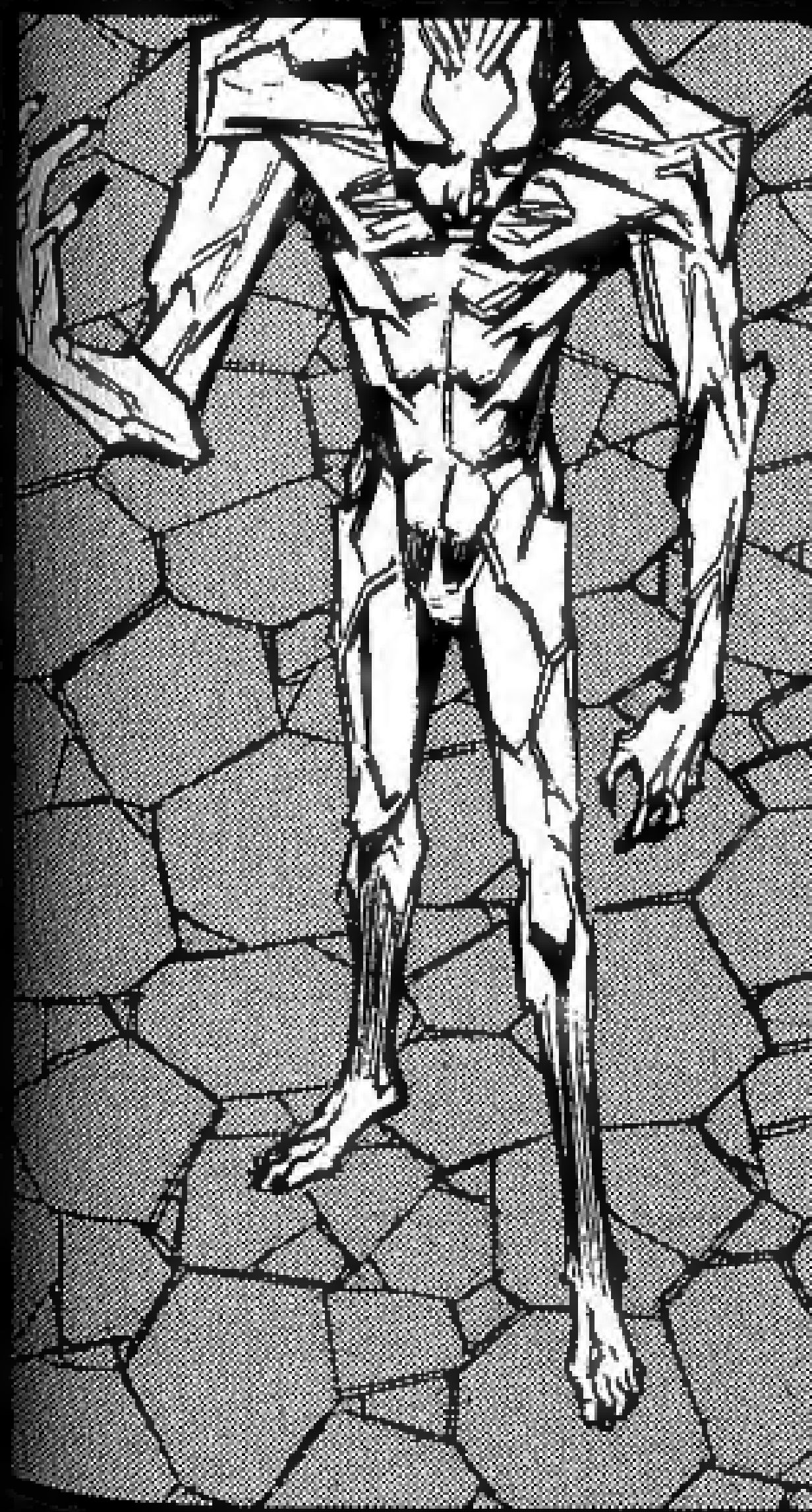
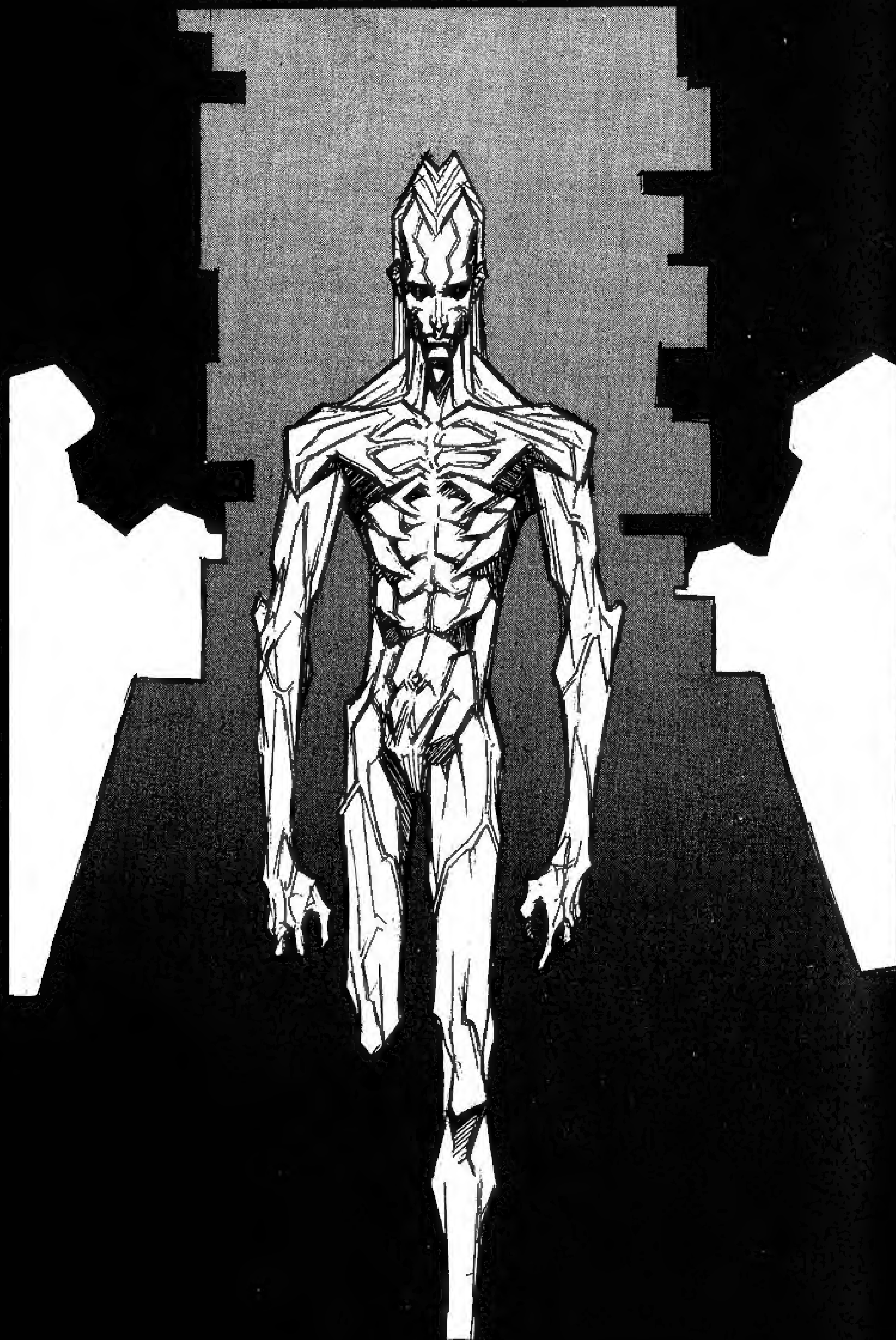
...LET US
PREPARE
A FEAST
...

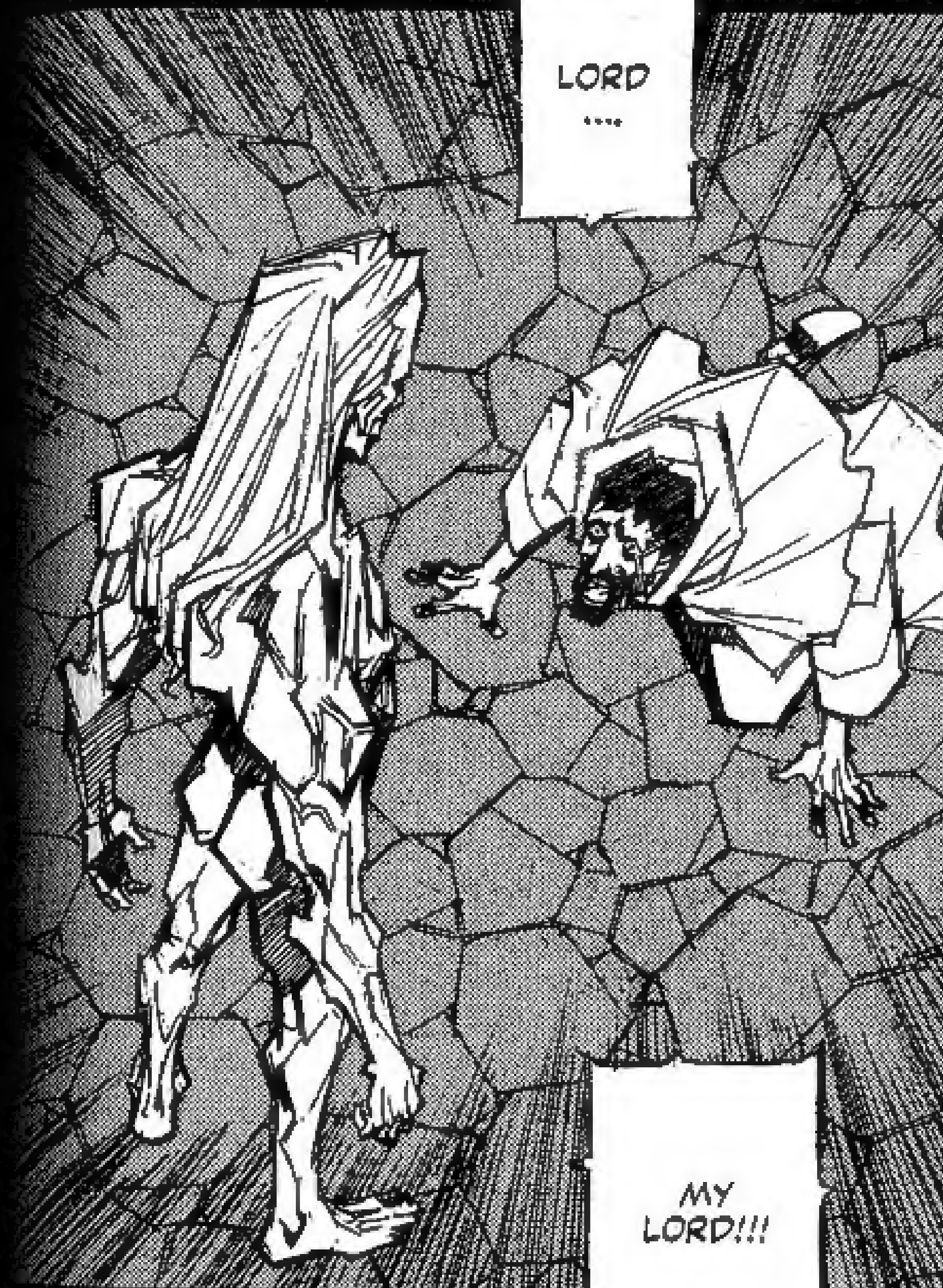
...FOR
OUR
DARK
LORD...

...WHO
WILL
SHROUD
THE
LIGHT
OF THIS
WORLD!



FOR OUR LORD
TEMOZARELA!!!



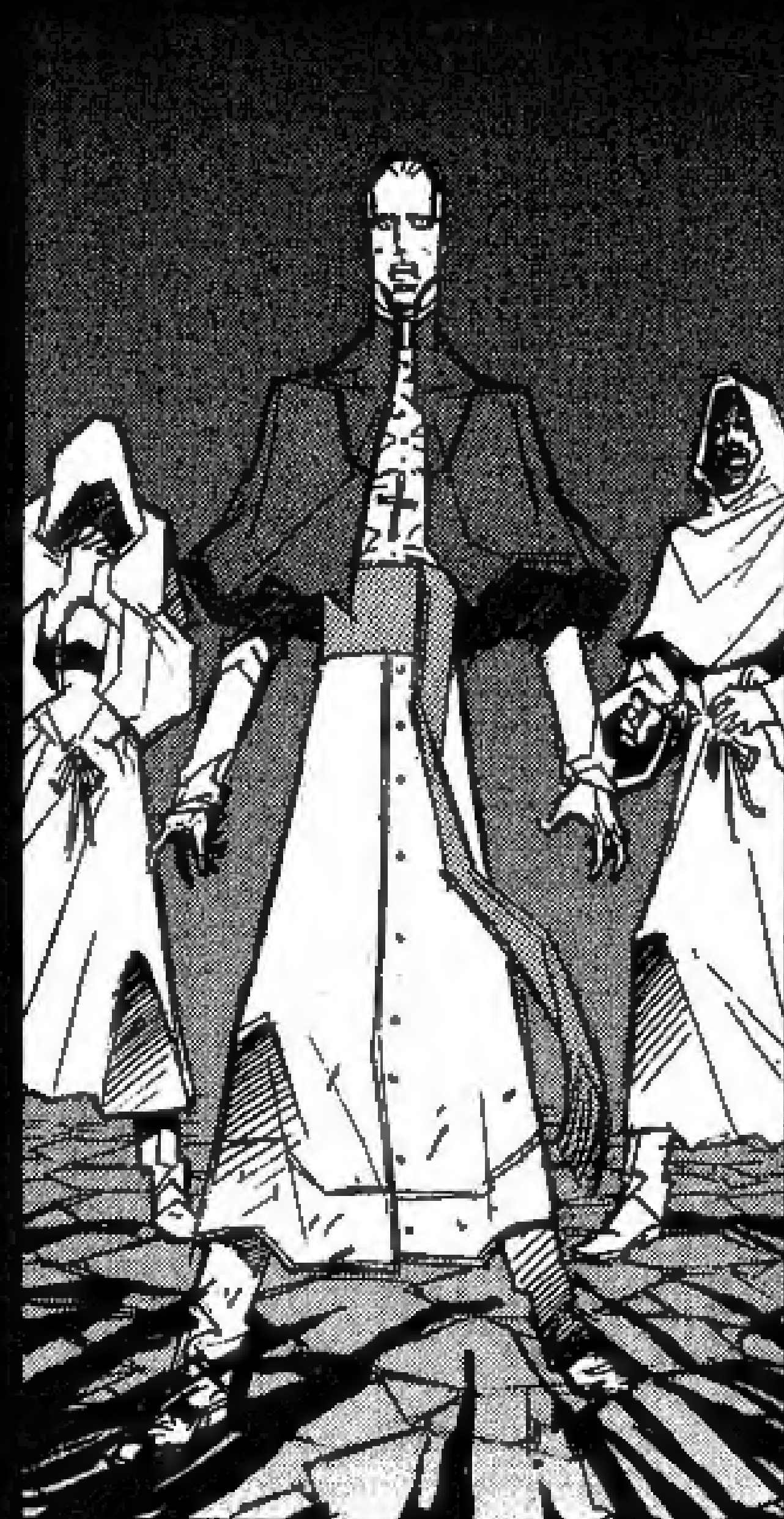


LORD

MY
LORD!!!

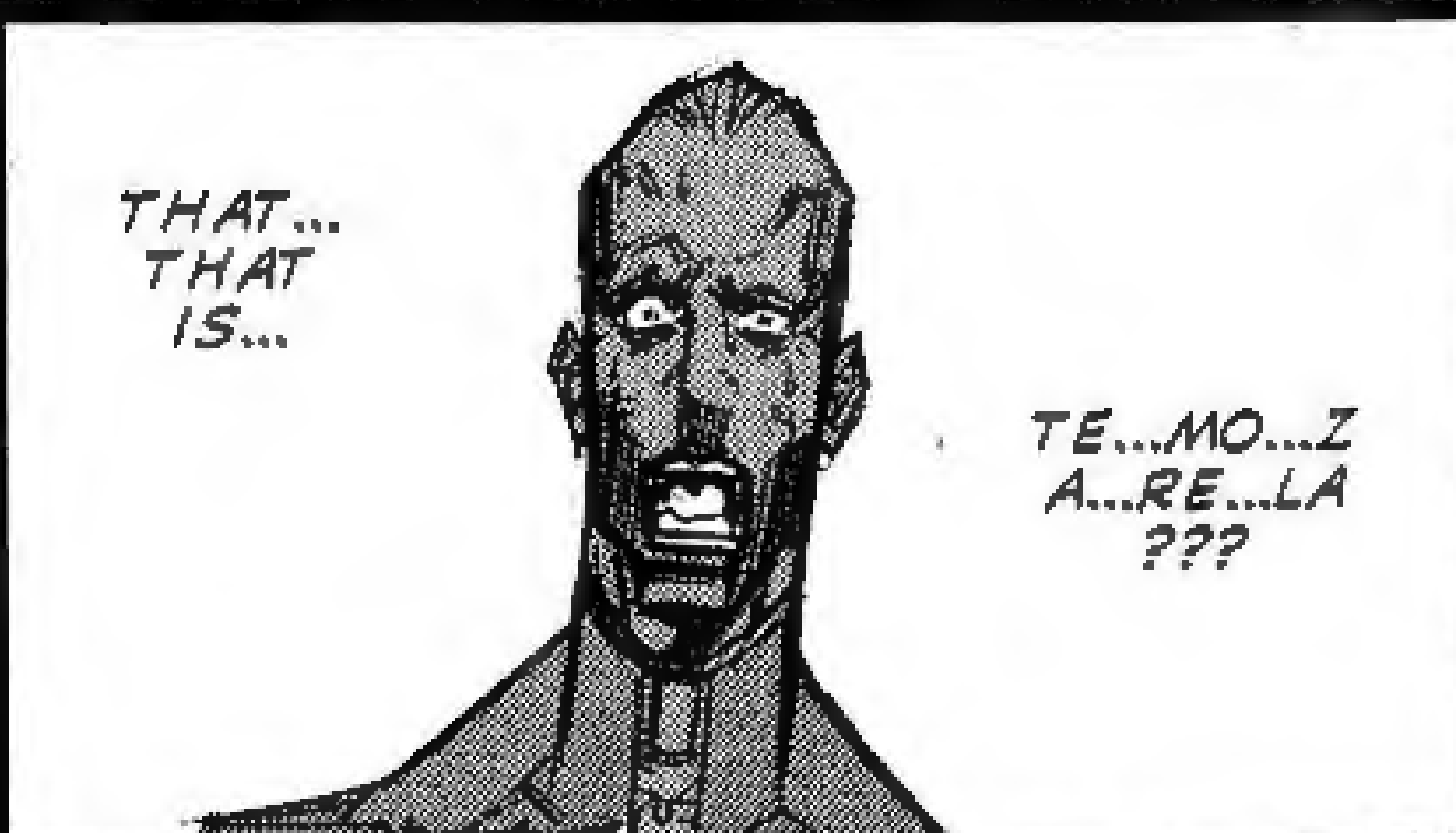


I AM
YOUR
HUMBLE
SERVANT
!!



THAT...
THAT
IS...

TE...MO...Z
A...RE...LA
???



...



I...

...CELEBRATE
YOUR
RESURREC-
TION...



ET!!



GAHK!

